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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1989

JAMADI AL THANI 28, 1409 AH

22 PAGES 150 FILLS

26 killed in Burmese plane crash

RANGOON, Feb. 3. (AP) A domestic airliner taking off from Rangoon airport today crashed after hitting a tree, killing 26 people and injuring three others on board, the state radio said.

Four other people also were injured when the Burma Airways Fokker Friendship 27 crashed near housing for families of Air Force personnel, Radio Rangoon said.

The radio said engine failure caused the crash, Burma's fourth since mid-1987, but said authorities were investigating.

The turboprop failed to gain enough altitude and hit a 15-foot (three metre) tree shortly after take-off for Kengtung, 611 kilometres (380 miles) northeast of Rangoon, the radio reported.

Survivors
The plane then swerved to the left and ploughed through trees and electric lines in front of a noncommissioned officers mess at the 502nd Air Force camp, adjacent to the airport.

The aircraft carried 25 passengers and four crew members — a pilot, co-pilot and two stewards. The report did not identify the three survivors.

It described victims on the ground as members of the family of Lance Corporal Kan Myint. The four were being treated at the Mingaladon military hospital.

All on board were presumed to be Burmese nationals since Kengtung is normally off limits to foreigners due to security problems in the area.

Bush seeks congressional approval

US may sell 200 tanks to Kuwait

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (AP) President George Bush has sought congressional approval for the sale of 200 front-line Abrams tanks to Kuwait and 315 to Saudi Arabia while providing a third Arab country, the UAE, with 40 F-18 fighter jets, informed sources have said.

Egypt, meanwhile, would get 150 Hawk missiles and Israel 200 shoulder-fired Stingers, while Jordan would not receive any American weapons this year, said the sources yesterday, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The potential Arab purchases could touch off another row with Israel's supporters in Congress,

who were exceptionally successful during the Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan administrations in blocking US sales that were considered threatening to the Jewish state.

Resistance

But the skilful management of James Baker, the then White House chief of staff and now secretary of state, and other Reagan administration operatives overcame stubborn resistance to the sale of AWACS radar planes to Saudi Arabia and the pivotal purchase squeaked through the Senate, 52 to 48.

Recently, US and Egyptian officials completed arrangements for coproduction in Egypt with the aim of providing

the Egyptian Army with Abrams tanks.

The weapons list sent to Congress last Thursday is classified. Congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Sub-committee that deals with the Middle East is understood to have cautioned other Congress members and staff aides not to leak any of the items.

Missiles

Meanwhile, the White House, in a cover letter, informed Congress the Saudis were in the process of deciding whether to request US or European fighter planes to replace their F-5s in the next decade, the sources said.

The letter said the Saudis were considering jet fighters to be jointly produced by Britain and West Germany, and the French Mirage 4000, as well as US-built F-16s and F-18s.

On the list for the Saudis were seven multiple-launch artillery rocket systems, for battlefield use, and seven of the box-type rocket for Kuwait along with 1,500 Tow anti-tank missiles.

Egypt was listed to receive 150 Hawk anti-aircraft missiles and Israel 400 helicopters along with the Stinger missiles.

Congress had barred US arms sales to Jordan until the Arab kingdom make a serious attempt to enter peace talks with Israel.

In addition to the Arab sales, Pakistan also is seeking the Abrams tank, the Washington Times reported yesterday.



Mubarak (right) in talks with Sheikh Sabah in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kuwait-Iran relations improving

PARIS, Feb. 3. (KUNA) Relations between Kuwait and Iran are on the way to normalcy "despite what had happened and despite all the missiles that hit us," Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said yesterday.

In an interview with the magazine Al Watan Al Arabi he said: "No one can just carry his country on his back and move it to another place if he doesn't like the surrounding circumstances. We are neighbours of Iran and we have to admit and recognize that the neighbour is a neighbour whatever."

Sheikh Sabah expressed hope that Saudi-Iranian relations would one day return to what they used to be.

KAC planes are safe

KUWAIT, Feb. 3. (KUNA) The Director-General of Kuwait Airways Corporation, Ahmad Faisal Al Zeben, has assured that it is absolutely safe to fly with KAC. He also said the KAC planes are operating smoothly.

He said KAC inspects all of its planes regularly without being instructed by others. He was commenting on reports that US officials intend to check different types of Boeing planes, in the wake of the Midland Airways airliner crash in central England on Jan. 8.

Zeben said KAC has four Boeing 747s and three 767s.

AIDS cases

GENEVA, Feb. 3. (UPI) Global reported cases of AIDS rose by 6,910 or 5.2 percent in January to a total 139,886, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said today.

The United States reported an increase of 3,965 to 84,503 which represented 60 per cent of the global figure.

WHO said 144 countries had reported one or more cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome as of Jan. 31.

At least half of all reported cases have so far resulted in death, officials said.

'We don't have a magic wand' Sheikh Sabah cautiously hopeful about Lebanon

DAMASCUS, Feb. 3. (Agencies) Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed arrived in Damascus today for talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and other Syrian officials on the Lebanese crisis.

Sheikh Sabah arrived from Cairo, where he briefed Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak about an Arab League group's efforts to end political crisis in Lebanon.

During his first visit to Cairo since Kuwait restored relations in November 1987, Sheikh Sabah said he was cautiously hopeful about Lebanon.

"Lebanon is not an easy issue and we don't have a magic wand to solve it but we are exerting efforts," he said.

Sheikh Sabah heads a six-member Arab League committee on Lebanon that ended three days of talks in Tunis on Wednesday.

Resume

Sheikh Sabah said his group would resume work soon. "There will be another round of talks with (Lebanon's) spiritual leaders and there will be a meeting soon in Kuwait," he said.

In an interview with the Paris magazine Al Watan Al Arabi Sheikh Sabah rejected claims by some Lebanese leaders that Lebanon's problems stem from foreign intervention, which prevents a reconciliation.

On the efforts of the committee

tee Sheikh Sabah said: "Our target is to realise a conducive atmosphere prior to the convocation of the Parliament to elect a speaker, elect a president and appoint a government agreed upon by the President of the republic and MPs and capable of accepting all reforms."

Situation

Asked on Syria's attitude towards Lebanon, the PLO, Egypt, Iraq and Iran, he said: "As a minister of foreign affairs I believe that, in Syria today there is some understanding of the situation in the Arab world. Of course, I am not speaking on behalf of Egypt and Syria, though it is my pleasure to see things back to normal."

Speaking on Arab-American relations in the administration of President George Bush, Sheikh Sabah said Bush, who knows a number of Arab leaders, has a different outlook from that of his predecessor towards the Arab world.

"I hope that we will not be disappointed by President Bush," Sheikh Sabah added.

Hope

He described the policies of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as "strange" to the conventional Soviet policy.

Sheikh Sabah expressed hope that Gorbachev would carry on with this policy and called on the world community to encourage him to go ahead towards open doors policy.

Gorbachev invited by China for summit

BEIJING, Feb. 3. (AP) China today formally invited Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to come to Beijing for their nations' first summit in 30 years, and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze accepted.

The meeting between Gorbachev and senior Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping is expected to formally normalise relations that turned hostile in 1960 when their predecessors quarrelled over the border and leadership of the world communist movement.

"The coming Chinese-Soviet summit will be an event of great significance," the official Xinhua news agency quoted Premier Li Peng as telling Shevardnadze in a meeting today. He said the normalisation of ties will "help promote world peace and stability."

"It's official," Soviet embassy spokesman Viatcheslav Duhin said later at a news briefing. He said Shevardnadze would make an announcement about the date tomorrow, after consulting with Deng.

Rumours

However, he said only a vague date may be announced, such as late April or mid-May. So far, both sides have said only that it should be held in the first half of the year.

Shevardnadze, who arrived in Beijing on Wednesday on the first such visit by a Soviet foreign minister in 30 years, flew tonight to Shanghai and planned to meet

Deng there tomorrow. Duhin said he had heard Deng was in Shanghai for medical examinations, but later qualified that he had heard only rumours, nothing official.

"Certainly we don't have official information about the health of Chinese leaders," he said. Rumours that the 84-year-old Deng is in poor health have been circulating around Beijing this winter as every year, but there has been nothing to confirm them.

After meeting Deng, Shevardnadze was to fly back to Beijing for a news conference before leaving for Pakistan.

The Soviets released few details of Shevardnadze's meetings today with his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, and Premier Li Peng, but confirmed that Sino-Soviet differences over Kampuchea were discussed for a second day. The Chinese-Soviet border, over which the two countries fought briefly in 1969, also was talked about, Duhin said.

"As far as I understand he (Shevardnadze) was satisfied with the talks," Duhin said.

Kulikov steps down

MOSCOW, Feb. 3. (Reuters) Marshal Viktor Kulikov, Commander-in-Chief of Warsaw Pact forces since 1971, stepped down yesterday in the latest phase of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's shakeup of the Soviet military.

Efforts to strengthen ceasefire

Iraqi, Iranian military officers to meet soon

BAGHDAD, Feb. 3. (Agencies) Iraqi and Iranian military officers will likely meet soon for technical talks aimed at strengthening the five-month-old Gulf war ceasefire, the commander of the United Nations monitoring group said.

Gen. Slavko Jovic, who heads the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observation Group supervising the ceasefire, told reporters the two countries were asked to forward officers' names for participation in a mixed military group that would be formed with UNIMOG.

Important

He said the mixed military committee could meet "very soon" in the no-man's zone along the ceasefire line.

The Yugoslav general said the group would work out technical details to stabilize the Aug. 20 ceasefire that halted the eight-year Gulf war.

Iran and Iraq agreed to set up

the military committee after UN special envoy Jan Eliasson held talks in Baghdad and Tehran last week.

Jovic said that setting up the group was "a very important step."

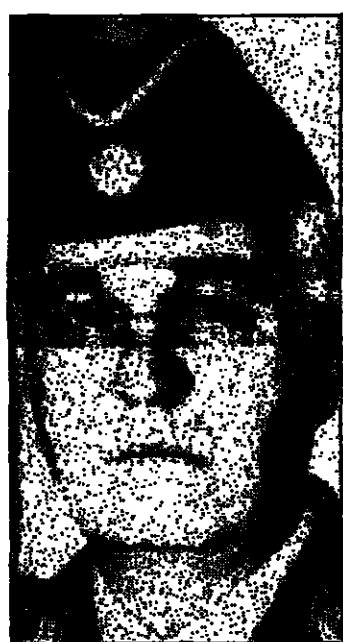
He spoke after presenting a UN medal to officers serving with the force.

Jovic described UNIMOG's performance as "very satisfactory" and said the force receives help and support from both Iran and Iraq.

He disclosed that officers from the observer group helped arrange exchanges of more than 300 bodies of Iranians and Iraqis found in each other's territory.

The force, which includes soldiers from 24 states, was deployed on Aug. 19 under UN Security Council Resolution 598.

A total of 20 officers received the award, including the chief UNIMOG observer on the Iraqi side of the border, Indian



Slavko Jovic

Gen. V. Patil

Iran's Parliament Speaker, Hashemi Rafsanjani, said yesterday the Gulf war foes are still too far from peace, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

The agency said Rafsanjani

(Continued on Page 2)

Rajiv accuses Pakistan of testing a rocket

NEW DELHI, Feb. 3. (Agencies) Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today he had received reports Pakistan had tested a medium-range rocket and obtained material used to boost the power of nuclear weapons.

He told a public meeting in Bombay, India would take steps to protect itself if the reports were true.

"In these circumstances, we cannot sit and watch the situation. We will take necessary steps and not allow the security of our country to be endangered," said Rajiv.

The Indian leader, whose meeting with Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto last December appeared to herald a new warmth in relations between the South Asian neighbours, quoted the reports as saying Pakistan had tested a rocket with a range of 640 km (400 miles).

He said Pakistan had obtained supplies of tritium from West Germany which could be used to produce a five or sixfold increase in the power of nuclear weapons.

Rajiv gave no further details but his comments came less than a month after Washington accused a West German firm of exporting beryllium to India in 1984 without the required permission of US authorities.

Beryllium can also enhance the power of nuclear bombs but has peaceful uses ranging from metallurgy to plastics.

India exploded a nuclear device in 1974, but said it was for peaceful uses. It also accuses Pakistan of developing nuclear weapons, a charge Islamabad consistently denies.

Western diplomats said Rajiv's accusation appeared an attempt to counter the US charge as well as declare to the world that India was failing to improve relations with Pakistan under Benazir despite its best intentions.

"They can say, 'look, we have a good chance to better ties after the death of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq but Benazir appears to have little control over her military and there is an ongoing nuclear programme which is out of her hands,'" said one diplomat.

Attempt

It could also be an attempt to pave the way for India's own rocket test, the diplomats said.

Two weeks ago the Hindu newspaper reported India had been ready to test an intermediate range ballistic missile since May, but had delayed it because of Zia's death, subsequent elections in Pakistan and Rajiv's visits to Beijing and Islamabad.

Visiting French President Mitterrand said in Bombay today that his country was prepared to co-operate with India on nuclear power projects.

"We are very demanding on safeguards," Mitterrand told a news conference in Bombay. "We are not particularly itching for contracts, but we are talking to countries which are interested."

He said there was no political problem in Indo-French nuclear co-operation, but there were other problems.

"The problems are of technical and financial matters, not political," he said without elaborating.

Pakistan denies

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3. (AP) Pakistani officials yesterday denied claims by a US congressman that their nation was willing to agree to international inspection of all nuclear facilities there if the United States would sell it power reactors.

Javed Akhtar, a spokesman at the Pakistani embassy in Washington, said his government was sticking to its longstanding position it was willing to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty only if its neighbour India did likewise.

The agency said Rafsanjani

(Continued on Page 2)

Military promises to return Paraguay to democracy

Stroessner ousted in coup

ASUNCION, Feb. 3. (Reuters) Paraguayan strongman Alfredo Stroessner was ousted in a military coup today after 34 years in power, and state radio said coup leader General Andres Rodriguez would succeed him as President.

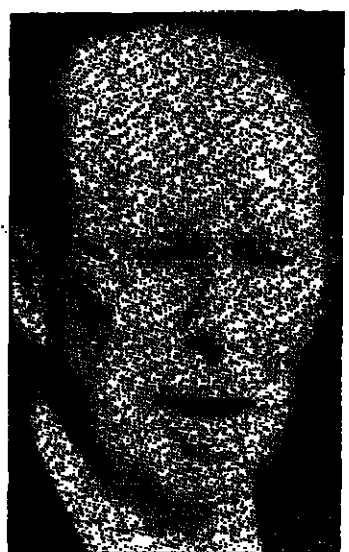
The radio said Rodriguez, 64, promised to return the country to democracy.

A military spokesman said Stroessner, 76, was being held in an Army barracks after the overnight coup, in which at least 12 people were killed.

Thousands of people sang and danced in the streets of Asuncion after Stroessner was detained by Army units backed by dissident members of his own Colorado Party.

Rodriguez said in a radio statement that Stroessner had been overthrown "in the name of democracy."

Witnesses counted at least 12 bodies from overnight fighting between rebels and loyalist soldiers around President Stroessner's house and the nearby barracks of the Presidential Guard in a suburb of Asuncion, capital and only major city of the land-locked South American



Stroessner

diers around President Stroessner's house and the nearby barracks of the Presidential Guard in a suburb of Asuncion, capital and only major city of the land-locked South American

nation of 3.5 million.

There was no official statement on casualties, but military sources dismissed rumours of 100 or more dead as "irresponsible."

Radio stations reported a mass roundup of Stroessner supporters and members of his government. Radio Caritas said Interior Minister Sabino Augusto Montanaro had taken refuge in the South African embassy. No embassy spokesman could be reached for comment.

A Roman Catholic radio station said Stroessner, 76, Latin America's longest-ruling leader, would be sent into exile in Chile. But the Chilean foreign minister said the government of General Augusto Pinochet had not received a request to grant him political asylum.

Witnesses counted at least 12 bodies in the streets after overnight fighting in which Army

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آج کے اردو صفحات میں

- پاکستان نے اپنی تعصبات کے معائنہ سے انکار کر دیا
- بھارت خاموش تماشائی نہیں بنے گا راجیو گاندھی
- شدید فساد سے کابل ازپورٹ بند ہو گیا
- عبوری حکومت کیلئے افغان شورشی کا اجلاس جلد ہو گا
- عالمی بینک پاکستان کو قرضہ دینے کا
- اتحاد الحق نی سیاسی جماعت بنائیں گے
- آسٹریلیا نے آخری ٹیسٹ پر گرفت مضبوط کر لی
- آٹھویں آئینی ترمیم اور افغانستان پر خصوصی تبصرے

WEATHER

FAIR weather with light to moderate north-westerly wind and some clouds will appear.

State of sea: slight to moderate

High water: 12.00 pm, 9.00 pm

Low water: 5.00 am, 4.00 pm

Sunrise: 6.36 am

Sunset: 5.28 pm

Maximum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 28°C 86°F

Ahmedi: 14°C 57°F

Falaka: 13°C 55°F

Minimum temperatures recorded:

Kuwait: 20°C 68°F

Ahmedi: 14°C 57°F

Falaka: 13°C 55°F

Bush revises foreign policy structure

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (Agencies): President Bush has revised the structure of his foreign policy staff but the changes pose no threat to the power of Secretary of State James Baker, administration sources said yesterday.

Bush approved a proposal that would place Brent Scowcroft, his National Security Adviser, in charge of two panels made up of his top foreign policy advisers.

"This is a fine-tuning of the structure," said one White House source. "There is no power grab here."

Historically, the ambitions of the Secretary of State and the National Security Adviser have clashed, with the elevation of one usually undercutting the power of the other.

Henry Kissinger, for example, began as former President Richard Nixon's National Security Adviser and was so influential he became Secretary of State as well.

In the current case, Baker agreed to the restructuring of the national security operations and the duties of Scowcroft, according to one source who said the two men have been close friends for years.

Administration sources said the restructuring included an attempt to better co-ordinate internal procedures, which expanded during the eight years Ronald Reagan was President.

At various points, more than 80 groups involving senior-level officials were set up to deal with specific policy issues. There had been difficult co-ordinating the groups and having their work reach officials at a higher level, the sources said.

In another development, House Speaker Jim Wright, reacting to growing public outrage, said yesterday the House would let a 51 per cent congressional pay raise take effect next week but then vote to cut it back to "a decent raise" of 30 per cent.

The Senate, meanwhile, prepared last evening to debate a joint resolution killing the big pay raise, and a companion measure to restrict speaking fees and other honoraria received by its members.

The Senate Armed Services Committee abruptly delayed a vote on John Tower's nomination as defence secretary yesterday to let the US Federal Bureau of Investigation check out two serious, last-minute allegations against the former Texas senator.

Neither committee chairman Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, nor ranking Republican John Warner of Virginia, would detail the charges, but Nunn termed them "serious enough for us to want to check."

Warner indicated a committee vote on Tower would not come before next week.

Fog hits Paris

PARIS, Feb 3, (Reuters): Fog blanketed Paris today causing confusion at airports and the Environment Ministry said it was closely monitoring the level of pollution trapped over the city by a layer of stagnant air.

The top of the 320-metre (1,000-foot) Eiffel Tower was lost in the clouds and a thick morning mist over the River Seine obscured one bank of the capital from the other.

Temperatures at dawn hovered around freezing point. Some flights were delayed or cancelled at Orly and Charles de Gaulle airports and early international arrivals were diverted to Brussels, Amsterdam and Stockholm.

In the Mediterranean port of Marseille, although the weather was much warmer, a similar heavy lid of air stifled the city.

Persist

Environment Minister Brice Lalonde said ministry experts were keeping an eye on rising levels of sulphur dioxide from factories and nitrous oxide from vehicles in several cities.

The situation was likely to persist for several days and the ministry would issue daily reports but no measures would be taken immediately to reduce pollution, he added in a statement.

France, like many countries in continental Europe, is experiencing a mildest winter on record, creating a variety of problems.

Botha quits party leadership

CAPE TOWN, South Africa, Feb 3, (UPI): President Pieter W. Botha resigned his 10-year leadership of the ruling National Party in a move foreshadowing a new leader of the minority white government.

A ruling party spokesman said it was unlikely that the 73-year-old Botha, who suffered a stroke on Jan 18, would remain as President after his term expires on Sept 3.

Botha submitted his resignation to the National Party moments before its 130 Members of Parliament held a caucus on the eve of the opening of the 1989 parliamentary session in Cape Town.

The caucus narrowly elected National Education Minister

Frederik de Klerk, 52, as party leader and the man most likely to succeed Botha.

Botha's resignation, characterised by television as a "stunning turn of events," forced an unexpected ballot and effectively blunted a power struggle among at least five potential candidates.

Relinquished
Con Botha, the ruling party's director of information, said in an interview Botha would not have relinquished control of the party had he not also intended to step down as President.

"Having resigned the rather stressful position of party leader, it may be possible (for Botha) to see out the rest of his term as President of state," he said.

He said he expected Botha to

be "guided entirely" by his doctors on whether to remain President until the end of his term.

De Klerk is leader of the ruling party in the northern province of Transvaal, where the rival right-wing Conservative Party captured control of two-thirds of the white municipal councils in October elections.

In a statement, De Klerk said the ultimate aim of the National Party was "a free South Africa in which justice towards every South African as an individual as well as in group context will be done."

"A great deal of progress has already been made but a tremendous amount of work is still to be done," De Klerk said.

Return of Marcos could reconcile people: Laurel

HONOLULU, Feb 3, (AP): Philippine Vice-President Salvador Laurel said the return of exiled leader Ferdinand Marcos, hospitalised here in critical condition, could reconcile the Filipino people and affect the nation's political stability.

In a statement released last night by his secretary, Laurel, who visited the 71-year-old Marcos without the blessing of Philippine President Corazon Aquino, said he was convinced Marcos was near death and should be allowed to come home.

"Whatever our past differences and conflicts, the reality is that the crisis in this man's life can seriously affect political stability of the Philippines. Now is the time for compassion and forgiveness in order to achieve much needed unity among all Filipinos," he said.

"In addition, as vice-president, I feel I can communicate with all appropriate parties in the Philippines and in the United States to assist in resolv-

ing the matter of Marcos' return," Laurel said.

Laurel said he was called on to help by the Marcos family. The former leader also addressed a letter to Aquino asking her to allow him "to die in the Philippines."

Aquino, who has repeatedly refused to allow Marcos to return, said she had not received the letter and declined to say how she would answer his request.

"I can just make a decision once I know what the letter is all about," she told the Associated Press in Manila.

The Marcoses are under US indictment for allegedly plundering his homeland of more than \$100 million and stashing much of the money in the United States.

Marcos remained in critical condition in the intensive care unit of St Francis Medical Centre early today, but one lawyer said he was buoyed by Laurel's visit and doctor's said his fever had subsided.

Reagan and Gorbachev nominated for Nobel prize

OSLO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and former US President Reagan have been nominated a second time for the Nobel peace prize, sources at the Nobel Institute said today.

The sources said the Dalai Lama, the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet, Czechoslovak human rights activist and former Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek and Joao Havelange, Brazilian head of the International Football Federation, have also been nominated for the 1989 award.

Last year, Nobel watchers said an award to Reagan and Gorbachev, nominated after signing the first superpower treaty to cut nuclear arsenals, could be seen as an endorsement of Republican presidential candidate George Bush.

Bush then won the November US election for the presidency.

"One obstacle which made it difficult to give them the prize last year has been removed, but it is far from certain that they will win the award," said one institute source.

Reagan and Gorbachev have been nominated both separately and jointly, but the sources declined to say by whom.



Satyajit Ray
Mitterrand honours Satyajit Ray

CALCUTTA, Feb 3, (UPI): French President Francois Mitterrand visited the teeming metropolis of Calcutta yesterday after making "considerable progress" towards improved Indo-French relations during meetings in New Delhi with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Mitterrand presented France's highest civilian award, the Legion of Honour, to prize-winning Bengali film director Satyajit Ray during a crowded ceremony on the steps of the national library.

Mitterrand praised Ray as "one of the most fascinating artists of our time."

"France pays tribute to a great film director and a friend. She wants to show here gratitude to a great creator who continues to bear witness to the plight of all humanity," Mitterrand said as he hung the blue-ribboned medal around Ray's neck.

Ray, 68, has won numerous national and international awards for the 26 feature films he has directed since 1955.

Divorce row

ATHENS, Feb 3, (Reuters): Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou's American-born wife Margaret has criticised him for using government announcements to publicise their marital problems.

Papandreou, in a statement released yesterday, said his wife had rejected his offer to start divorce proceedings before she left for a 25-day visit to the US.

Child's note finds a friend, an ocean away

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Florida, Feb 3, (AP): Ashira Konigsburg was four when she tucked a note into a bottle and tossed it into the Atlantic Ocean. Now she's six and has a new friend in a place she's never heard of, 2,500 miles (4,000 kilometres) away.

Alfred Sousa Pedro, a 36-year-old cook, found Ashira's 16-ounce (450-gramme) soda bottle on Jan 3 as he walked along a beach on Sao Miguel, the largest of the Azores islands about 800 miles (1,290 kilometres) west of mainland Portugal.

The islands are brushed by the same Gulf stream currents that flow off Florida.

In a telephone interview on Wednesday with the Palm Beach Post, Sousa Pedro said he doesn't understand English and so he had his brother read the note.

The note explained that Ashira was taking part in a summer-camp programme. It asked whoever found the bottle to return the enclosed form, after noting the place and the day the bottle was found.

"It was strange because it took so long to get here. I knew that I had to write back," Sousa Pedro said.

"I want to meet this girl," he added.

Ashira, of Palm Beach Gardens, threw the bottle into the ocean off Fort Lauderdale on June 30, 1987. "I totally forgot about it after the first year," she said.

"I think I'll write him back," she added. "I will thank him for finding the bottle and writing back. I want to know how he feels."

Stroessner ousted in coup

(Continued from Page 1)

rebels battled Stroessner loyalists outside his suburban home and the nearby barracks of the Presidential Guard.

Shortly after daybreak General Andres Rodriguez, 64-year-old commander of the First Cavalry Division and apparent leader of the coup, announced: "General Stroessner has surrendered and is under arrest."

Rodriguez, whose daughter Marta is married to Stroessner's youngest son Alfredo, said he took the action in the name of democracy.

But diplomatic sources said Stroessner had been about to order the strongly-built, grey-haired Rodriguez into retirement.

The coup was backed by dissident members of Stroessner's own Colorado Party known as Traditionalists.

Battled

As rival army factions battled around Stroessner's home and the barracks of the Presidential Guard, Air Force fighters flew overhead and truckloads of civilian supporters of the rebels roared through the streets waving Colorado Party flags.

In Washington, a Bush administration official said the US government noted that Rodriguez had "indicated a desire to move toward democracy. We hope he carries through."

Iraqi, Iranian military...

(Continued from Page 1)

told a meeting of military officials that the armed forces should remain vigilant because the ceasefire with Iraq cannot be trusted to last regardless of future developments.

Iran said its foreign minister Ali Akbar Velayati will fly to New York next week to attend a Security Council session to extend the mandate of UNIMOG.

Resumption
Gulf-based UN officials said they hoped the Iranian official would meet his Iraqi counterpart in New York, and that this would mark the resumption of stalled peace talks with Iraq.

The UN officials said Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz would also be visiting New York at the same time as Velayati, and was willing to sit down with his Iranian counterpart.

Cold snap

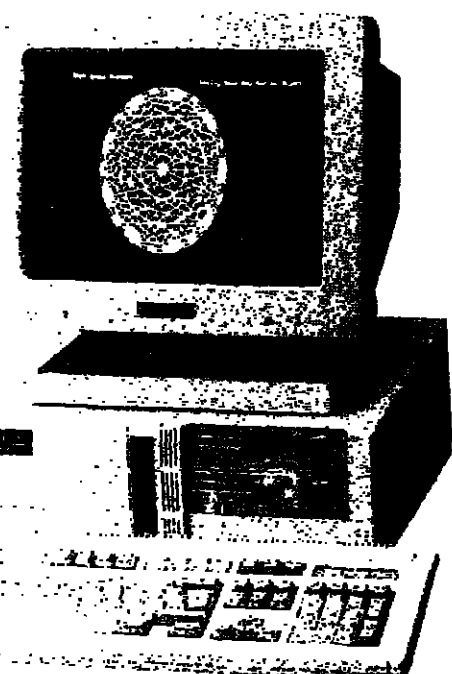
NEW YORK, Feb 3, (AP): A blast of cold air out of Alaska brought snowstorms and plunging temperatures to the west and Midwest, triggering hundreds of traffic accidents and closing schools, and threatened to end the east's record warm spell yesterday.

"Today was it. It will get seasonal," National Weather Service meteorologist Bill Scura said at Atlantic City airport in New Jersey, where a balmy reading of 69 degrees Fahrenheit (20.5 Celsius) was one of 51 high-temperature records broken or tied in the east and south on Wednesday.

New From Al-Shawaf

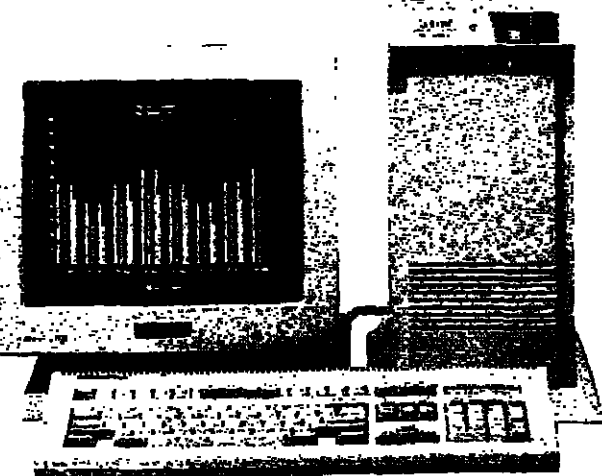
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N. Korean agent charged with mass murder

SEOUL, Feb 3, (Reuters): South Korean state prosecutors today formally charged a self-avowed North Korean agent with mass murder over the 1987 destruction of a Southern airliner, which killed 115 people.

A prosecution spokesman said Kim Hyeon-Hui, 27, who has publicly confessed to planting bombs aboard the plane, would remain under security protection until she stands trial, probably later this month.

Kim, detained in Bahrain and extradited to Seoul, told interrogators she blew up the Korean Air Lines Boeing 707 on the written orders of Kim Jong-Il, son and heir-designate of North Korean President Kim Il-Sung.

She said her aim was to spark security fears which would make it impossible for South Korea to host the 1988 Olympics. Despite the tragedy, a record 160 countries, including most of North Korea's allies, sent athletes to Seoul.

South Korea withheld legal action against Kim, known at first as Mayumi from the name on the false Japanese passport she was carrying when arrested, until after the Olympics as part of an effort to persuade the North to take part in the Games.

Iran steps up bid to unite Afghan rebels

NICOSIA, Feb 3, (Reuters): Iran's Foreign Minister has returned to Tehran from Pakistan with the head of an Afghan guerrilla alliance for negotiations on uniting the rebels, the Iranian news agency IRNA said today.

The minister, Ali Akbar Velayati, said he held satisfactory talks on rebuilding Afghanistan after a Soviet military pullout and encouraging formation of a popular government.

Government He was accompanied by Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, leader of a seven-party mujahedeen alliance based in Peshawar, for more discussions with an Iran-based eight-party coalition, IRNA said.

"Now we have reached the gate of victory it is necessary we reach a comprehensive understanding with other brothers on the formation of a government," it quoted Mojaddidi as saying.

Before leaving Pakistan last night, Velayati advised the rebels to unite and avoid differences over small issues.

Mojaddidi, a moderate among the mujahedeen, wants to per-

suade the Iran-based guerrillas to take part in a consultative council meeting to approve an interim Afghan government.

The eight Iran-based groups are Shiite Muslim while Mojaddidi's alliance is drawn from the country's majority Sunni sect.

They have rejected an offer of 10 seats each on the council, or "shura," arguing that they should have a total of 120 seats to reflect the proportion of Shiite Afghans.

A meeting of the council has been set for Feb 10, five days before a Soviet troop withdrawal should be completed, but Mojaddidi said more talks with mujahedeen were needed.

Tactics Soviet forces today appeared to have adopted new convoy tactics along the crucial Salang Highway came under fire from mujahedeen rebels.

Soviet sources said an earlier plan to evacuate the bulk of the troops stationed in and around Kabul on the highway in one giant column seemed to have been dropped in favour of

smaller convoys.

A column of 118 tanks, armoured personnel carriers, communications trucks and other specialist vehicles left on Thursday morning, witnesses said.

Another smaller group was apparently forming up today, despite thick snow on the road.

Two Soviet soldiers at a marshalling area at the southern end of the Salang Highway said they were due to depart during the day, weather permitting. One was going up the road by convoy and the other by air.

Plane Snow which fell intermittently yesterday continued overnight and today until it lay about 15 cm deep, restricting visibility and forcing Kabul airport — a vital lifeline to the outside world — to close.

Giant Ilyushin-76 transport planes have been flying out Soviet troops and equipment for more than two weeks.

Meanwhile, Pakistan said that an Afghan plane which crashed in northwest Pakistan was loaded with rockets and ammunition.

Iran pardons anti-Islamic broadcasters

NICOSIA, Feb 3, (Reuters): Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini has pardoned radio officials sentenced to be flogged and jailed for broadcasting an un-Islamic interview, the Iranian news agency said.

In the broadcast, which angered Khomeini, a woman chose as a role model a Japanese soap opera star rather than Bibi Fatima, daughter of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (Peace be upon him).

Director of broadcasting Mohammad Arab Mazar-Yadzi had been sentenced to five years in prison and three directors were each given four-year prison terms and ordered to receive 50 lashes.

Khomeini, in a letter to the managing director of radio and television on Sunday, said "if proven there was a deliberate insult, undoubtedly the person who has made the insult receives a death penalty," IRNA, monitored in Cyprus, reported.

The Tehran daily Reswalat reported on Monday that a woman interviewed on the programme said she rejected the holy prophet's daughter as a role model because she lived 1,400 years ago.

11 killed as Tamils attack village

COLOMBO, Feb 3, (UPI): Rebels of the ethnic Tamil minority stormed a majority Sinhalese village in eastern Sri Lanka, killing at least 11 people, a senior police official said today. Up to 50 people were feared wounded.

The official blamed last night's raid at Boyagamuwayaya, about 180 km northeast of Colombo, on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the only Tamil guerrilla group still pursuing a war for independence for the Tamil-dominated north and east.

An unknown number of LTTE rebels charged into the Sinhalese village and attacked residents in their homes with firearms and machetes, he said.

At least 11 bodies were recovered by security forces this morning and as many as 50 people were feared wounded, although a precise number was not known as some villagers had fled for their lives, the official said.

He said a search for the assailants was launched by Sri Lankan soldiers and troops belonging to a 60,000-man Indian force deployed in the north and east to crush the LTTE under a July 1987 Indo-Sri Lankan accord.

The accord granted limited self-rule to Tamil areas to satisfy Tamil calls for independence from the Sinhalese-controlled central government.

Other Tamil rebel groups endorsed the peace plan and in elections last year, took control of a new northeastern province council. The LTTE, the largest and most popular guerrilla organisation, rejected the accord, contending it failed to devolve sufficient powers to the council.

The LTTE, which was once backed by New Delhi, has been badly mauled by more than a year of combat with Indian forces, but continues to wage a guerrilla war from jungle hideouts. More than 600 Indian troops have died, while there is no firm estimate of rebel losses.

The police official said the latest LTTE attack came amid an escalation in the group's operations apparently timed to coincide with the 41st anniversary of independence from Britain, which falls on Saturday.

The LTTE has distributed leaflets and posters vowing to disrupt independence day ceremonies, promoting the government to deploy troops to protect potential targets.

Maghreb summit set for Feb. 15

RABAT, Feb 3, (Reuters): Leaders of five North African states will meet in Morocco from February 15-17, the Foreign Ministry said.

It said in a statement the meeting in Marrakesh of leaders from Algeria, Morocco, Mauritania, Tunisia and Libya follows meetings between officials in recent months to forge closer co-operation.

The five heads of state are expected to declare the creation of the Arab Maghreb Union. The first summit of North African countries was held in Algeria last June.

The new union, which would represent more than 62 million people, is intended to serve as a counterweight to the European Economic Community with which all North African countries have close economic ties.

The summit will take place a week after the first state visit to Morocco by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid.

The two most populous North African countries have been at odds for 13 years over a conflict in the Western Sahara, where Algeria has supported Polisario guerrillas.

Zia's son may join politics

BAHRAIN, Feb 3, (Reuters): The eldest son of the late President Gen. Zia-ul-Haq of Pakistan said he was considering entering politics.

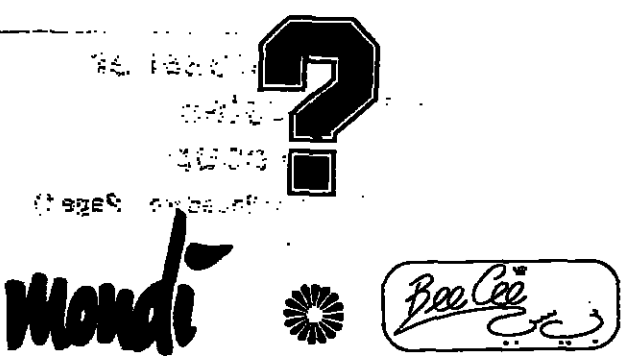
"Nothing definite yet, but I am thinking of starting from scratch and forming my own party to contest the next elections," Ijaz-ul-Haq, 36, a vice-president at Bank of America based in Bahrain, told Reuters by telephone.

Ijaz said in an earlier interview with the English-language Gulf Daily News that he was in touch with political parties at home "committed to Islam and Pakistan."

After his father's death in a plane crash on Aug 17, Benazir Bhutto, daughter of executed Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, won general elections and became prime minister.

Ijaz also told Reuters he was certain there was a cover-up in investigations into the crash which killed his father.

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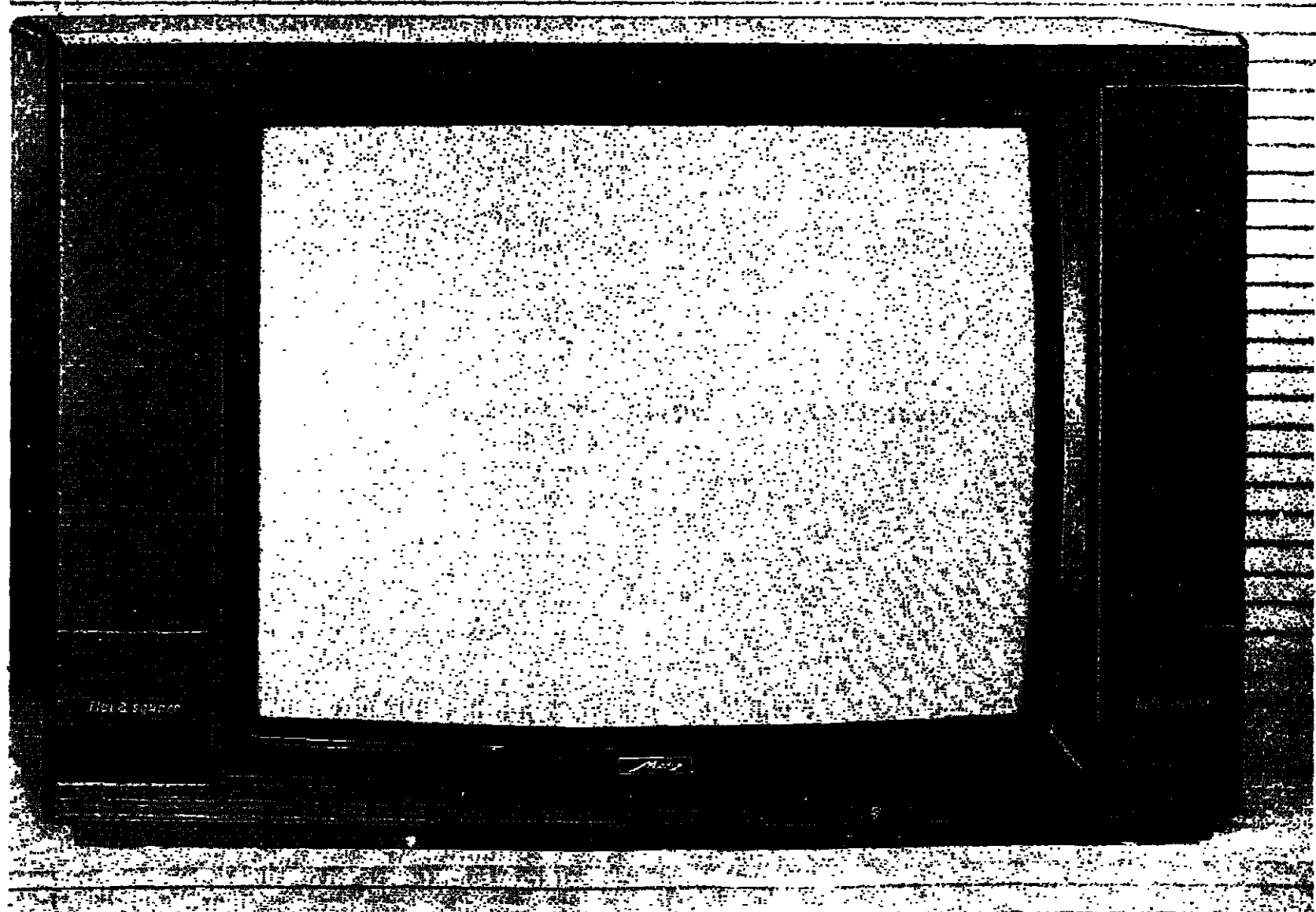
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- Permanent display of programme or channel on the LED display can be selected and stored.
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- Self-seeking tuning with automatic fine tuning (AFT) and electronic storage of 50 stations. Automatic management of storage positions. Individual fine tuning can also be stored.
- Further remote control features: fine station tuning, direct access to desired channel.
- All important functions may also be controlled directly from the TV set.
- All picture and sound settings can be stored.
- Separate volume adjustment for Euro-socket and AV-socket to match the sound level to that of normal TV programmes. Sound channel 1 or 2 freely selectable on the EURO-socket.
- Freely selectable Euro or AV operation on any programme position.
- Front-mounted stereo headphone jack socket (for 6.35 mm plug).
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Health official warns against eating raw eggs

KUWAIT, Feb. 3, (KUNA): Director of Nutrition and Feeding Department at the Ministry of Health, Fawziya Al-Awadi has warned against eating raw eggs and recommended that any food containing eggs should be thoroughly cooked, as it may cause salmonella poisoning.

Awadi said that hygienic improvement in animal production areas such as poultry and slaughterhouses have helped considerably against salmonella contamination.

Veterinarians say eggs carry salmonella when the exterior shell develops cracks allowing germs to enter from the affected mother. They found out that salmonella bacteria grows in chickens and could contaminate the yolk and the white layers inside the egg and that removal of germs from the shell would not help if the egg was affected during the formation period.

Director of Food and Construction Licences at Kuwait Municipality Yousif Al-Maylam told KUNA that locally produced eggs are thoroughly checked by medical authorities before and after putting it on the market.

He said imported eggs are subject to visual and machine checks and workers too are

medically checked before they are allowed to handle eggs.

Acting head of the Poultry Section and Controller of Promotion of Animal Production at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Abbas Dandan said they carry out regular vaccination campaigns in poultry farms at the request of the owners.

Statistics
Statistics at the authority show that production of eggs declined in 1988 affecting self sufficiency in this commodity. According to the statistics local production covers 44.5 per cent of consumer demand.

The Netherlands is Kuwait's biggest supplier of eggs with 31.8 per cent followed by Saudi Arabia 31 per cent and Lebanon 21.1 per cent.

Kuwait also imports eggs from Bulgaria, Turkey, Finland, Cyprus, Hungary, Australia, Federal Republic of Germany and other countries.

Contaminated eggs in British markets recently forced the state minister for health to tender his resignation following food poisoning cases resulting from salmonella in eggs. Sales consequently went down to 60 per cent in Britain causing great embarrassment to the government.

Rqobah back from Tunis

KUWAIT, Feb. 3, (KUNA): Electricity and Water Minister Dr. Homoud Rqobah returned home Thursday evening following an official visit to Tunisia.

During his four-day official trip, the Kuwaiti minister held talks with the Prime Minister El Hadi Bacouch, Energy and Mines Minister, Sadiq Rabih and other officials.

Crackdown on spitters in Dubai

DUBAI, Feb. 3, (Reuters): Spitters have 36-hours to legally clear their throats in public in the Gulf Emirate of Dubai, for after tomorrow they will face a 50 dirham (\$13) fine.

And if they are caught spitting a second time, the fine will be doubled, the official United Arab Emirates News Agency WAM reported Thursday.

Man acquitted of sex charge

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court acquitted a man of an alleged sexual assault on a six-year old boy for lack of incriminating evidence.

The court was told that the accused had gone up to the roof of the building where he lived to fix the TV aerial and the boy followed him. On his return home, the boy's parents suspected their child had been sexually molested and reported the matter to the local police station.

However, the court could not positively base its assessment on the basis of the parents' suspicions and the child's distorted testimony.

Pearls project

THE Municipal Affairs Committee headed by the State Minister for Municipal Affairs, Mohammed Al-Sayed Abdul Mohsen Al-Rifai held a meeting to discuss the Kuwait Pearls Project.

The project aims at establishing modern cities along Kuwait's sea coasts. Additionally, the project envisages organising all of Kuwait's beaches at a total estimated cost of more than KD400 million.

Soviet envoy praises role as OIC chairman

Kuwait may help solve Afghan crisis

By Hussain Salameh

MOSCOW welcomes Kuwait's contributions towards solving the Afghan problem, according to Soviet Ambassador Ernest Zverev. The Ambassador announced yesterday that his country holds the positive and constructive attitude of the Kuwaiti leadership in the highest esteem.

He added that every time he met Kuwaiti leaders in his capacity as Soviet ambassador to Kuwait, he witnessed concrete signs of co-operation and understanding on the part of these officials towards obtaining an acceptable solution.

Kuwait is one of the few Islamic states that still maintains diplomatic relations with the government in Kabul, the official said. He praised Kuwait's role as the chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Zverev emphasised that even after the Soviet troop withdrawal, the Afghan problem will be far from settled. He added that the Soviet Union welcomes the assistance from any state towards solving the Afghan crisis — especially from the Kuwait which plays a vital role in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

He praised Kuwait's policy, adding that although Kuwait is a small country, it wields big political clout. He also praised Saudi contribution to solving the Afghan issue.

Zverev added that the Soviet Union still believes that the best way to solve the Afghan problem is through peaceful negotiations and the formation of an Afghan government in which all parties are represented.

He added that a comprehensive solution cannot be achieved without a ceasefire. He regretted that the Afghan opposition com-



Soviet Ambassador Ernest Zverev.

prising of seven fronts still rejects a ceasefire and insists on fighting. He said: "They have still not replied to Soviet proposals in the Tair and Islamabad meetings." The ambassador called for implementing the Geneva accord, but, added, the Soviet Union and the government in Kabul are still ready to negotiate with opposition parties in Afghanistan.

The official stressed that Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan is going on as scheduled and will be completed before the 15th of this month. He indicated that parties that had been calling for Soviet withdrawal are now using every tactic to put obstacles to this withdrawal. He added that the Soviet Union is working very hard to ensure that Afghanistan is an independent and non-aligned country.

Zverev described Kuwaiti-Soviet relations as very advanced adding that relations in the trade and economic sectors needed to be further developed.

The official said that the visit of the Soviet oil minister to Kuwait last Feb 12 will help improve Soviet-Kuwait co-operation in the oil sector.

He added that the relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union were not severed

but the two countries exchange no diplomatic representatives.

Positive factors in the Saudi-Soviet relations have considerably increased. Among these factors was the visit of the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vorontsov to Riyadh and his meeting with the Custodian of the two Holy Mosques, King Fahd. There are other events that indicate increasing positive prospects in Soviet-Saudi relations. Zverev said without further elaboration. He added that with the lapse of time, diplomatic representation between the two countries will be restored. He said: "We are optimistic about future relations."

Zverev stressed on the importance of peaceful negotiations between Iraq and Iran and added that it may require some more time. He added that converting from a scene of war into one of peace and understanding takes some time. As the two armies were still facing each other at close range in various border areas, he did not rule out the possibility of a renewed crisis.

It is necessary to continue negotiations under UN auspices as positive signs have been achieved by the exchange of POWs and the formation of the joint military committee, he said.

He added that the Soviet Union actively contributed to put an end to the fighting and made contacts with Tehran and Baghdad to achieve this goal. The Soviet Union also contributed through the UN Security Council in issuing Resolution 598. The Soviet Union will continue this policy until durable peace is achieved in the region and stability and freedom of navigation is achieved in the Gulf, the official said.

The Soviet ambassador refused to predict the outcome of

the Middle East peace conference to be held this year. He said that what was important was not the holding of peace conference per se, but the results.

He expressed optimism on the Palestinian question, although he described the issue as complicated. He said that the idea of holding the peace conference has been attracting more support and most important recent one is the West European position in supporting.

He said that now it's only USA and Israel that refuse to hold the conference. Zverev said that Soviet contacts with Israel, especially the meeting between Shevardnadze and Israeli Foreign Minister, Moshe Arens, was aimed at convincing the Israeli leadership to positively respond to peace efforts.

The main aim of these contacts is to arrive at practical steps to solve the Middle East problem. He said that the Soviet Union exerted every effort in trying to bring about a solution to the conflict in the past years and is determined to continue these efforts. He added that based upon this, it is still difficult to say whether the peace conference will be held this year or not.

Kuwait may mediate

PAKISTANI Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait, Sayed Akbar Afreedi has said that Kuwait may take part in mediation efforts to solve the Afghanistan problem. He said that Kuwait as the Chairman of the OIC has contacted Pakistan and Afghanistan separately.

"Kuwait can play the role of a good mediator because it maintains strong relations with both the US and the Soviet Union," the diplomat said.

Early retirement by Kuwaitis will affect social fund, says official

HAMAD Al-Humaidhi, the deputy director-general of the Public Institute for Social Security said that early retirement by Kuwaiti employees will cause a deficit in the social security fund in the future.

Speaking at a lecture at the Society Development Centre in Bayan, he added that increasing number of Kuwaitis retiring at an early age will cause a serious financial burden on the fund.

The social security system presently in practice in Kuwait is the only one of its kind that does not determine the age of retirement. The system permits

Kuwaitis to retire after 20 years service if they have reached 50 years of age and after 15 years of service if they are over 50.

This method was decided upon as many senior officials in the public sector were not sufficiently educated. The system provided an avenue for infusing new blood by the replacement of young educated Kuwaitis.

It is expected that the laws governing retirement will be amended once all old employees have opted for retirement benefits. But, he clarified, the law at present has remained unchanged.

The present law has enabled many young Kuwaitis to retire at just 40 years of age. The long leisure time on their hands has caused social problems in several cases, the official said.

Adverse effects
Early retirement has adverse effects on the development and progress of Kuwaiti society. Kuwaiti manpower constitutes only 19 per cent of the total manpower in the country. This percentage should be largely enhanced as the development of the country should depend mainly on its citizens. Early retirement is a stumbling block, Humaidhi said.



Bangladesh's Chief of Staff Air Vice Marshal Murtazuddin Ahmed (left) made a stopover in Kuwait on his way to Iraq and was received by Kuwait's Chief of Air Staff, Brigadier Dawood Sulaiman Al-Ghanim (centre). Ahmed who left Kuwait yesterday was seen off by Al-Ghanim, Bangladesh Ambassador K.M. Shehabuddin (right) embassy officials and Bangladesh Air Force officials.

Bahrain endorses plan for International Islamic Court

MANAMA, Feb. 3, (AP): Bahrain yesterday endorsed a plan to set up an International Islamic Court of Justice patterned on the World Court at the Hague, the Gulf News Agency (GNA) reported.

A decree issued by the Amir, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa, approved a decision taken at the last pan-Islamic summit to found the court. "Out of a desire to have a juridical body that settles disputes in line with Islamic sharia," the agency

said. Islamic sharia (legislation) forms the basis for court systems in most of the Islamic countries grouped in the 46-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC).

Dispute
Establishment of the Islamic Court of Justice was listed in the resolutions of the last OIC summit, hosted by Kuwait in January 1987.

Bahrain's endorsement of the

OIC court apparently reflected its interest in having a territorial dispute with neighbouring Qatar taken up by an international court.

Bahrain and Qatar contest sovereignty over a string of tiny islands in the Gulf. The dispute, which had threatened to trigger hostilities between the two countries, was frozen after a mediation effort by Saudi Arabia.

According to statutes reported by GNA, the court will be

headquartered in Kuwait but could be convened in any OIC member state by special request.

A panel consisting of the court president and six judges would be elected by the OIC foreign ministers once every four years. The elections have not yet been held.

Candidates for membership in the panel should be over 40 and qualified in Islamic as well as international law. They should be citizens of OIC member states and eligible to serve as a judge in their own country, GNA said.

BAHRAIN DIGEST

New co-operative law to be introduced in Bahrain

A NEW statute to govern the activities of the co-operative sector is set to be introduced soon by the Government of Bahrain, according to official reports published in the latest edition of the Commerce Review.

The statute called the Co-operative Societies Law will be enforced soon following detailed discussions between the officials of the ministries of Labour and Social Affairs and Legal Affairs.

It is understood that the law incorporates provisions taking into account the evolving requirements of the community and the need to permit the co-operative societies to play a greater role in serving the people. The views of the representatives of the societies that are in operation, problems encountered in maintaining a balance between the service and profitability aspects and the suggestions obtained through volunteers are also said to have been taken into consideration while drafting the law.

According to government sources the law is a culmination of the efforts exercised in the formation of a charter for the co-operative societies and the pronounced need to expand their activities.

The report stated the government's keenness in establishing a strong co-operatives sector and providing facilities and incentives for their smooth operation. The authorities are also keen to support moves for setting up such societies in various parts of the country to serve the residents as "Fair Price Shops" offering food items, household goods and other items of common interest and demand.

In this connection the promulgation of the law has been hailed as an important milestone in the history of the co-operative movement in Bahrain.

Bangladesh association holds first social function in new premises

THE Bangladesh Association held its first social function Thursday since it moved to new premises recently.

According to the President of the Association, Abubakar Samad Bhuiyan, the event "Family Night" was also organised to celebrate the opening of the new premises of Sheikh Ismail Road.

The function proved to be a success and attracted nearly 150 families of the Bangladesh community in the island. Bangladesh Charge d'Affaires Abdul Moazz Choudhury, other embassy officials and most of the 500 members of the association were among those who attended.

Meanwhile, the association will mark 21st February "Shohed Dibosh" (Martyr's Day) with a cultural programme which will include discussion of the role of the community in the history of the country.

No camel jockeys to UAE, says Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Feb. 3, (Reuters): Sri Lanka will enforce strictly a ban on local boys being employed as camel jockeys in the United Arab Emirates where camel racing is popular among wealthy residents and tourists, after reports of ill-treatment, a senior official said Thursday.

David Soysa, chairman of the state-owned Foreign Employment Bureau, said some local recruiting agencies responsible for this type of employment would be prosecuted.

In a report last month, the Weekend newspaper carried an interview with a seven-year-old boy who said he had been ill-treated by his employers during a two-month stay in the emirates.

Soysa said agencies were liable to a fine and a two-year jail sentence if found guilty of violating laws that do not allow the employment of children below 14 years of age.

Police said several Sri Lankan boys had been sent to work as camel jockeys. They could not give figures.

Soysa said that although the ban was introduced in 1985, authorities could not act until some boys returned to the island late last year and complained of ill-treatment.

"Our action is confined to violators of local laws, not employers in the emirates," he said.

UAE women must unveil for new passport rule

DUBAI, Feb. 3, (AP): Security authorities have abandoned Muslim tradition that women cover their faces and ordered that they include photographs in their passports, immigration officials disclosed Thursday.

The cabinet made the ruling late last night, with little publicity, in an effort to tighten security.

Until now, United Arab Emirates authorities have observed tradition and issued passports to women without photographs or with photos showing them veiled.

But one immigration source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the government

decided to change that after discovering several cases of impersonation.

The authorities urged all citizens of the UAE, a federation of seven Gulf emirates, "to co-operate with the decision for their benefit and the country's."

While the decision will affect women living throughout the desert states, it will not have much impact in the bustling, cosmopolitan port of Dubai, where most women gave up the veil a long time ago.

The UAE has a population of 1.6 million. The majority are expatriates, mainly Indians and other Asians.

Petroleum symposium to be held February 7

A SYMPOSIUM for "Control Operations in Petroleum Industries" is to be held at the Kuwait Engineers Society next Tuesday, Feb 7 according to Dr. Imad Al-Ahqi, the representative of the International Federation for Automatic Control.

Important
The three-hour symposium will discuss issues on petroleum industries, the importance of the oil sector on the national economy, improving operations of oil refineries and control systems. The symposium will emphasise the role played by academic establishments in Kuwait regarding applications on advanced control systems in the oil field.

The petroleum companies to renovate and modernise its refineries have made this symposium very important towards enhancing oil operations, the official said.

Kuwait's membership to the International Federation for Automatic Control (IFAC) was accepted in July, 1987. IFAC was established in 1975 as a federation for national establishments. It includes 50 member countries and aims at urging research in the field of automatic control.

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Kuwait's membership to the International Federation for Automatic Control (IFAC) was accepted in July, 1987. IFAC was established in 1975 as a federation for national establishments. It includes 50 member countries and aims at urging research in the field of automatic control.

Spring vacations shifted to January

ANWAR Al-Nouri, the Minister of Education said that the ministry and Kuwait University have decided to shift the spring vacation to begin Jan 27 and end Feb 7 as of the next academic year.

This action is in response to the wishes of HH the Amir who desired the switch to enable students and their families to enjoy their vacation during this period of fine weather.

Court penalises drunk driver

THE Traffic Court has fined a man KD100 for driving under the influence of alcohol, KD75 for speeding and ordered the withdrawal of his license for one year.

The court heard that the defendant was driving his car at a high speed while drunk, and that he lost control over the steering which caused the car to swerve, hit another car and land in the traffic lane.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

1. Re-enrolment for returning students for the 1989-90 academic year will take place between February 1-28, 1989.
2. Siblings of returning students may be enrolled for the 1989-90 academic year with priority over other new students between February 1-28, 1989.
3. New student applications for the 1989-90 year will be accepted beginning February 4, 1989.

The school may be unable to secure plans for its current students and for the siblings of current students who enroll after February 28, 1989.

Fully accredited by Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. Affiliated with the Advanced Placement Office of the College Entrance Examination Board. H.S. Diploma equated with the Kuwait Secondary Certificate.

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ACCREDITED BY: THE MIDDLE STATES ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

University of Kuwait
Local Examinations
Date: 1989
Time: 10:00 AM
Place: Kuwait University Faculty Club - Shuwaikh
Subject: English
Examiners: Dr. G.M.L. Gladwell
University of Waterloo, Canada
Date: Sunday, 5th February, 1989
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Kuwait University Faculty Club - Shuwaikh
Subject: English
Examiners: Dr. G.M.L. Gladwell
University of Waterloo, Canada
Date: Tuesday, 7th February, 1989
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: Building No. 5 Kh

KUWAIT UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Eng. & Petroleum
Dept. of Civil Eng.
ANNOUNCEMENT
The Department of Civil Engineering of Kuwait University is pleased to invite engineers and researchers to two lectures titled:
1. "Inverse problems in engineering"
Speaker: Dr. G.M.L. Gladwell
University of Waterloo, Canada
Date: Sunday, 5th February, 1989
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Kuwait University Faculty Club - Shuwaikh
2. "Inverse problems in vibration"
Speaker: Dr. G.M.L. Gladwell
University of Waterloo, Canada
Date: Tuesday, 7th February, 1989
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: Building No. 5 Kh

Kuwait makes film on uprising

KUWAIT'S Ministry of Information has produced a documentary on the Palestinian uprising — intifada — in three languages, KUNA reported yesterday.

The documentary made in Arabic, English and French, was produced at the instruction of HH the Amir, chairman of the Fifth Islamic Conference.

It traces the Palestinian issue from its beginning and shows the developments that led to the uprising with hundreds of Palestinians fighting Israeli aggression and oppression. It also examines the violation of human rights in the occupied territories and the plight of the "stone-throwers."

Copies of the documentary will be distributed to all members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference and major world organisations.

'Musical dialogue'

PARIS, Feb 3, (KUNA): The Arab Music Academy's convention on the theme of a "musical dialogue between the Arab World and Europe" opened here today.

This is the first time such a convention is being held outside the Arab world to "enhance cultural ties between the Arab world and Europe."

The Arab World Institute, which is hosting the convention, will hold a seminar on Euro-Arab musical dialogue. Among the speakers will be Saqr Al Boeyjan of Kuwait.

Music, academicians from Spain, Switzerland and France will discuss "The Realities and Prospects" of the Euro-Arab musical dialogue.



Children praying on 'Eid'.



A scene from a drama.

Students present colourful show

"OUR Festivals", a colourful programme of songs and dances, was presented by the tiny tots of the Indian School, Abbasiya, on Thursday at the Annual Parent's Day held at the IAC, Fun-aires.

The festivals included Eid, Christmas, Onam, Diwali and other regional festivities. Excerpts from mythology were also presented by the children.



Girls performing the Onam dance. (Photos by Javed Baeer)

TV CORNER

This week on KTV 2

SUNDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Dennis the Menace: cartoon serial
- 6.30 The Owl: documentary. Children are involved in community work.
- 7.00 Scientific Eye: examines "body temperature."
- 7.30 The Pursuit of Happiness: Dave is 30. Does he celebrate his birthday? Comedy.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Call Me Mister: "Frozen Assets" Jack is hired to find the men who robbed a house.
- 9.40 Dive to Adventure: examines the wealth of life at sea.
- 10.00 What's Happening Now: "Shirley's Pen Pal." Shirley's pen pal pays a visit.
- 10.30 Best-Seller: "The Lancaster and Miller Affair." Part 2.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

MONDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Chocky's Children: based on characters created by John Wyndham.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world news and views.
- 7.30 Perspective: a documentary, it examines emergency measures to rescue people caught in fires.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 A Different World: Denise plays host to her younger sister, Maggie.
- 9.30 Rediscovery of the World: "Waters of the Winds Cape Horn."
- 10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Twisted Sister". A group of young

TUESDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Noveltoons: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Break Point: a new series for young viewers.
- 7.00 Footsteps: "The Marble Hunter." David Drew retraces the history of some archaeological sites in Turkey.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 A Year in the Life: starring Richard Kiley. A misunderstanding simmers during the visit of one of the girls.
- 9.40 The Hit Squad: "Catch it before it catches you" is the theme of this practical jokes series.
- 10.10 Basil's Looser: Mimi's adopted family decide to give shelter to a homeless kid.
- 10.30 Jake and the Fatman: "Blues in the Night." Twin-trouble hits town amid a series of robberies. Starring: William Conrad and Joe E. Penny.
- 11.30 News Summary/followed by Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

WEDNESDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Transformers: cartoon

THURSDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre: "Puss in Boots".
- 7.30 T and T: "Stowaway". Starring: Mr T.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 The Oldest Rookie: "Grand Theft Avocado". Ike and Tony investigate a theft and find themselves charged. Starring: Paul Sorvino
- 9.40 Incredible Sunday: "When the Bush Breaks".
- 10.30 Late Night Movie: "Nobody's Child". Starring: Mario Thomas. A tortured child is placed under psychiatric care where she discovers her powers of healing others.
- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 3.30 Holy Quran

THURSDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 The Real Ghost Busters: cartoon serial.
- 6.30 Fairy Tale Theatre: "Puss in Boots".
- 7.30 T and T: "Stowaway". Starring: Mr T.
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- 12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 3.30 Holy Quran

THURSDAY

- 3.40 The Sylvanian Family: new cartoon feature for children
- 4.00 Italian football
- 5.30 American Basketball
- 6.30 Star Trek: "When the Bough Breaks". Aliens seek the captain's help, asking him to "supply babies."
- 7.30 Face to Face
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Breaking Away
- 8.55 Big League Soccer: Brian Moore introduces this sports show on English League games.
- 9.40 Weekend: local programme on news and views about Kuwait.
- 10.00 The Charmings: "The Incredible Shrinking Prince". Lillian cooks a "get-rich-quick" remedy with some disastrous results. Comedy.
- 10.30 The Aftermath: part 3 of a series about an investigation after a devastating plane crash.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Holy Quran/Closedown

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Ghadir Gallery
Until Feb. 9: "The Orient in their Eyes", a collection of works by a group of Arab and European painters will be shown at the gallery. Open daily from 9 am to 12.30 pm and 4 to 8.30 pm.

Iwan Gallery
Exhibition of lithographs by three 19th century Orientalists. Open from 9 am to 1 pm, 5 to 9 pm, at the gallery located in Zahra Complex, Salmiya.

Kuwait Society for Formative Arts
UPTO FEB. 9: The Kuwait Society for Formative Arts will hold the annual general exhibition, displaying art works by Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti plastic artists.

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Auditions
FEB 5, 7 pm at Messilah Beach Hotel: Kuwait Players auditions will hold two of their coming productions. (1) The Great Celestial Cow, a comedy

with music, about an Indian family adapting to their new life in England; directed by Mike Cosden (2) When Did You Last See Your Trousers?, a British farce, directed by Mike Johnston. Indians particularly welcome for the first production. For details ring Malcolm Walker — 5624111 ext. 716.

SOCIAL

Jumbo Circus
The Indian Jumbo Circus, Mishrif Grounds, has been extended by popular demand. Show timings are 5 pm and 8 pm.

Sri Lankan Flag-hoisting ceremony
FEB 4, 10 am: a flag-hoisting ceremony will be held at the Sri Lankan Embassy premises, Block 6, House 31, Andalus Street, Keifan, to mark the National Day of Sri Lanka.

German-Speaking Ladies Association
FEB 5, 10 am: The regular coffee morning for German-speaking ladies will be held at the Holiday Inn Hotel. Newcomers are particularly welcome.

FLASSIK
FEB 10, 6 pm, Holiday Inn's Al Afrah Ballroom. The

Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait, Flassik, will hold the 1989 Valentine.

SPORTS

Laser Sailing
FEB 10: Messilah Beach laser club's spring series continues this Friday.

Feb 16/17: Messilah Beach
open meeting; four race event over two days. All laser sailors wishing to participate in the above events please contact David Clark: 4845171/2425947; P. Shepherd — 4841513/5314957; P. Berry — 3924174.

Tivim Centre
MAR. 4/5: The Tivim Centre will hold its second annual one-day seven-a-side football festival at Al Sour Grounds. This will be followed by their second inter-village nine-a-side football tournament, beginning April 8. For details contact organisers.

Mini Rugby
Training and games every Friday at the Ahmadi ground. Training starts at 10.00 and mini Rugby finishes at 11.30 am. For details call Hugh McAree — 532-6368 or Geoff Bennett 533-2683.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

MORNING

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.10 Good Morning
- 9.15 Cartoon serial
- 9.45 World News via Satellite
- 10.00 Abna'a Al Diyah: Arabic serial; part 6. Starring: Jamil Awadh, Juliet Awadh, Ruhi Al Safdi, Iman Kamel.
- 10.50 News Summary/Good Morning
- 11.00 Al Daleel: local Arabic serial; starring Mohammad Al Manea, Ayesha Ibrahim
- 12.00 Gulf Cuisine
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 Holy Quran/Close-down

EVENING

- 4.00 Holy Quran
- 4.15 World News via Satellite
- 4.45 Cartoon serial
- 5.15 Fanaan Sagheer: Young Artists
- 5.45 Nazrat Alalam
- 6.00 Liqa Fi Al Zakira: historical serial; star-

- ring Fakhry Al Akidi, Fawzi Mahdi, Nizar Al Samara.
- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.15 Noor Al Islam
- 7.50 Security and Citizens
- 8.30 Good Evening
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 9.50 Daerat Al Ahdath: Circle of Events. "Training youth to join industry and science." Guests are Dr Ahmad Ali Jassar, Dr Abdul Rahman Saleh Al Mithailan and Nasser Rashed.
- 10.45 Ayyam Daiya: Arabic play, starring Zizi Badrawi, Ibrahim Khan, Sahar Rami
- 12.30 News Summary/World News via Satellite/ Holy Quran/Close-down

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Duck Tales: cartoon serial
- 6.30 Scheme of Things: "Inventing the Future."

- 7.00 Sea Urchins: the second summer-time adventure begins when the children discover the submerged hulk of an aircraft.
- 7.30 Throb: "I Lost Him After the Movie." Sandy finds a lost friend, after 15 years of separation.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Our House: "Friends."
- 9.30 Mysteries of the Pyramids: Omar Sharif unravels the secrets of the pyramids.
- 10.30 Made-for-TV Movie: "Banana Joe." Starring: Bud Spencer, Marina Langner, Maria Scarpitta.
- 11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/ Holy Quran/Close-down

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

FM Services

- 0600 Opening/Easy Listening
- 0630 News
- 0640 Easy Listening
- 1000 Songs and Music
- 1200 Arabic Songs and Music
- 1300 Easy Listening
- 1330 News on FM Service
- 1400 Classical Music
- 1600 Spanish hour
- 1700 Arabic Songs and Music
- 1800 Pops
- 2130 News
- 2145 Pops
- 2200 Indian Classical Hour
- 2300 Easy Listening
- 2400 Instrumental Listening
- 0200 Closedown

English

- MORNING
- 0600 Opening
- 0800 Songs and Music
- 0830 News in English
- 0840 Songs and Music
- 0845 Daily Programme
- 0900 Cultural Horizon
- 0930 Reggae Rock
- 1000 Our Press Today
- 1005 Songs and Music
- 1100 Closedown
- EVENING
- 2100 Opening
- 2102 Kuwait
- 2130 News
- 2145 Point of View

Urdu

- 2155 Songs and Music
- 2200 Kuwait in a Week
- 2215 Rock On
- 2245 Daily Programme
- 2300 Strictly Romantic
- 2330 Amazing Fact
- 2400 Closedown
- 1900 Opening
- 1910 Beheren Qaul
- 1920 Songs
- 1935 Press Report
- 1940 Jaizah
- 2000 News in Urdu
- 2020 Songs
- 2040 Dhanak
- 2100 Closedown

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Cairo Pharmacy
Tukhaim Bldg., Fahd Al Salem St.
Al Rashid Pharmacy
Awadh Bldg., Ahmed Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Sabah Pharmacy
Othman St.
Saluniya and Rmmaitiya
Al Rashed Pharmacy
Amman St.
Fahsheel and Ahmadi
Al Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanem Bldg., Dabbous St, F'heel Farwaniya
Al Taawon Pharmacy
Jara Comm. Centre, Main St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Jhr. Co-op. Society

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Youn Mir Youn Helu (Arabic)
Starring: Faten Hamama, Mohammad Muntar
Al Sahm
Al Zalzal (Arabic play)
Al Hamra
Shaitan Yaghna (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Yaseen, Bosi
Al Firdous
Zameen Aasman (Hindi)
Starring: Sunjay Dutt, Anita Raj
Fahsheel Open-Air
Kaan Kitey Paani Mein (Hindi)
Al Jabra
High Road to China

Al Fahsheel
Athim Appuram (Malayalam)
Granada
Warriors II
Salaikhat
Hasna Wa Amalaqah (Arabic)
Al Jeeb
Raiders for Victory
Ahmadi Drive-In
Street Dance

PRAYERS

- Fajr 5.15 am
- Zuhr 12.02
- Asr 3.07 pm
- Maghreb 5.29
- Isha 6.48

We are an associate of a large marketing organisation representing over 30 internationally acclaimed agencies and operating in various parts of the globe consistent with our growth plans.

We need immediately, the following personnel for our new operations which would be marketing a large range of watches, house-hold appliances and audio/video products based in Kuwait.

- 1. ACCOUNTANT:**
Preferably a chartered accountant with at least five years' well rounded finance/accounts experience in organisations of repute. Should be able to guide a team of accounts clerks and oversee administrative functions. Knowledge of Arabic would be a distinct asset.
- 2. SALES REPRESENTATIVES**
Candidates must be graduates, knowing fluent Arabic, having around three years' selling experience in watches, audio/video or house-hold appliances. Knowledge of English is essential and valid Kuwaiti driving licence an advantage.
- 3. TECHNICIANS**
Diploma holders with 4-6 years' experience in repairs of watches, house-hold appliances and audio/video equipment would ideally suit our requirement.
- 4. CLERKS (ACCOUNTS/GENERAL)**
Preferably commerce graduates with minimum 3 years experience. Arabic typing/book-keeping would be considered a distinct asset.
- 5. LADY SECRETARY**
Having good knowledge of typing in Arabic/English and telex.
- 6. DRIVER**
Must have valid Kuwaiti driving licence.

Apart from a very competitive remuneration which will not be a limiting factor to the right candidate, we offer a good professional career growth. All candidates must have a valid transferable residence visa.

Kindly mail detailed personal resume immediately with contact telephone number and a recent passport-size photograph to:

THE PERSONNEL MANAGER,
P.O. BOX 206, SAFAT,
13003 SAFAT - KUWAIT

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

HISTORY is, indeed, little more than the register of the crimes, follies and misfortunes of mankind—Edward Gibbon, English historian (1737-1794).

Vietnam juggles with freedom

By David Storey

HANOI, (Reuters). Vietnam is facing a sharp rise in crime and unprecedented civil protest as it wrestles with a classic dilemma of a reforming communist state—how to keep control of society while allowing greater freedom. The last few months have seen increases in violent and petty crime, reports of spying and sabotage by foreigners, an erosion of moral values and the communist state's first civil protests.

Interior Minister Mai Chi Tho, one of the architects of the old-style rule that suppressed individual initiative, said in December: "Efforts will be made to wage an all-people movement to maintain security."

Nobody is predicting a reverse of the reform policies, particularly those affecting the stagnant economy. But Tho and others have made it clear that allowing more personal initiative must not erode ultimate Communist Party control.

Crimes
Serious crimes increased by 28 per cent last year over 1987, according to Tho's report to the National Assembly last month, and the Ho Chi Minh City youth newspaper Tuoi Tre wrote on Jan 7: "Robberies are increasing day by day."

It catalogued violent thefts of bicycles and motorcycles that left two people dead and many injured in the southern city, formerly Saigon, in November alone.

Armed robbery also raised its ugly head in the north, where people have a stoic pride in their endurance of poverty and high moral values. Hundreds of people attended the funeral of a man shot dead by a motorcycle thief late last year.

"It's really terrible because we used to feel safe in the streets," said one woman resident. "There is more crime as people's demands increase every day and they are unfulfilled."

Widening gaps in income also play a part as some private businesses and shopkeepers begin to thrive.

Tho and others warn of declining moral standards as the country opens up to more Western influences.

"Social evils, particularly gambling and prostitution, increased," Tho said and blamed

partly "a slackening of discipline in the broadening democracy."

He may have had in mind the vibrant cafe culture proliferating in Ho Chi Minh City.

At a cafe near the Cuu Long Hotel overlooking the Saigon River two young hostesses sat down with two Westerners, pouring their beer, feeding them nuts and behaving like Bangkok bar girls.

A visitor to Vietnam, though warmly welcomed, is left under no illusion that he is watched and that his contacts will be carefully filtered.

Tho said that in 1988 "the enemy continued to step up the war of sabotage, spy activities and intrusion into Vietnam". The police would be strengthened to cope with this, he said.

Hanoi residents said the system of reporting on others' movements and business—on which Vietnam's internal controls depend—appeared to be as pervasive as ever.

Chatting
On a flight from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City a Western journalist was chatting to an elderly government official sitting next to him.

The conversation came to a halt when a younger man rose from a nearby seat and whispered in the official's ear, nodding his head and smiling at the journalist.

Minutes later the old man quietly reached into his shoulder bag and drew out two small rice cakes neatly wrapped in banana leaf, a traditional gift for the Tet new year.

"This one is for you," he said quietly in broken French as he passed one over. "And this is for your loved one."

On a quiet Ho Chi Minh city street, a chat with a young woman sitting on her front step one evening was accompanied by a wild, silent pantomime from a man in a nearby window out of sight of her, shaking his head and putting his finger to his lips.

Control
The rigid system of social control showed signs of lapse last autumn when first farmers then students took the initiative to force their case.

Hundreds of farmers demonstrated in the centre of Ho Chi Minh City in the first such public protest under communist rule, demanding government action on implementing land reforms.

Moves to reduce tensions in Asia

By David R. Schwelsberg

BEIJING, (UPI): The recent opening of diplomatic channels between the United States and North Korea represents an important step in a series of moves by Asia's major rivals to reduce tensions and improve relations in the region.

In the first substantive diplomatic contacts between the two nations since the 1950-53 Korean war, senior US and North Korean diplomats met in Beijing last month and again last week. The exchanges, requested by North Korea, were brief and narrowly focused, but the very fact the meetings took place was "profound," according to a Western diplomat.

The contact is the latest in a pattern of efforts by the United States, the Soviet Union and China, to reach out from ideological base camps and seek pragmatic political and economic accommodations.

A move by long-isolated North Korea to improve relations with the West could give impetus to the easing of tensions in Asia, particularly between the rival communist giants, the Soviet Union and China.

Summit
A high point in the trend came on Thursday, when Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze visited China to prepare for a Sino-Soviet summit and the formal end to a quarter century of official hostility between the communist neighbours.

"It could be peace breaking out all over," said a Western diplomat. "But it could also just be the silly season. Will it last? We don't know."

The Soviets and Chinese are already expanding trade and cultural relations, and have moved steadily to resolve political squabbles.

Moscow has nudged Vietnam

to compromise on its occupation of Kampuchea, long cited by China as impeding Sino-Soviet ties. Beijing, which supports the Kampuchean resistance, recently opened direct talks with Vietnam after years of resisting such discussions.

Both the Soviet Union and China have been trying to improve relations with Japan and both have also eagerly moved to increase trade with the burgeoning South Korea economy.

The United States is also involved in the trend, aside from the talks with North Korea. President Bush will stop in China and South Korea next month after visiting Japan for the funeral of Emperor Hirohito.

In Beijing and Moscow, the impetus for relaxation is similar: each is anxious over the fate of ambitious but troubled domestic political and economic reforms, and neither wants to be preoccupied by regional bushfires.

N. Korea, long at odds with the West and hostile to South Korea, remains a potential source of disruption.

Signals
For years, Pyongyang has played the Soviet Union and China against each other. Now both communist giants appear to be leaning on North Korea's maverick president, Kim Il Sung, to come in from the cold and he has recently sent encouraging signals to South Korea.

The first US-North Korea meeting was held Dec 26, just three days after Shevardnadze visited Pyongyang where it is reported he outlined Soviet plans for better relations with Seoul.

"There's clearly been some nudging by both the Chinese and the Soviets," said a Beijing-based diplomat who was recently in North Korea. "They have a common interest in a loosening up on the Korean peninsula."

British scientists experiment successfully with anthrax

By Gary Thatcher

LAIDE, Scotland: Ronald Mossey read the novel with rapt fascination, despite its morbid theme. It detailed how a Scandinavian couple, sailing around the world with their dog, misread a navigation chart and landed on the wrong island.

Instead of venturing onto one of the summer islands off the western coast of Scotland, they blundered onto a rocky outcrop that had been used for biological warfare experiments during the 1940s. Decades later it was still contaminated with anthrax spores. First the animal, then the couple, contracted the illness and died horrifying deaths at sea.

Mossey, who has long since forgotten the book's title, took more than passing interest. For from the front door of his house in this seaside hamlet, the grizzled Scotsman could see just such an island some three miles across Gruinnard Bay.

Gruinnard Island, off the coast northwest of Inverness, was used by the British Ministry of Defence more than 40 years ago to test the potential of anthrax as a biological warfare agent.

The experiment was successful—if that is the proper word—beyond the scientists' wildest expectations. Gruinnard Island was inadvertently contaminated for more than four decades. Only this year has it been declared suitable for human use, and then only after an extensive decontamination effort.

Afraid
In 1941, scientists at Britain's chemical warfare centre at Porton Down, England, were afraid that Germany and Japan had perfected biological weapons. They embarked on a secret crash programme to create their own bio-weapons, and selected Gruinnard Island as the test site.

After tethering sheep to stakes, the researchers exploded canisters containing billions of

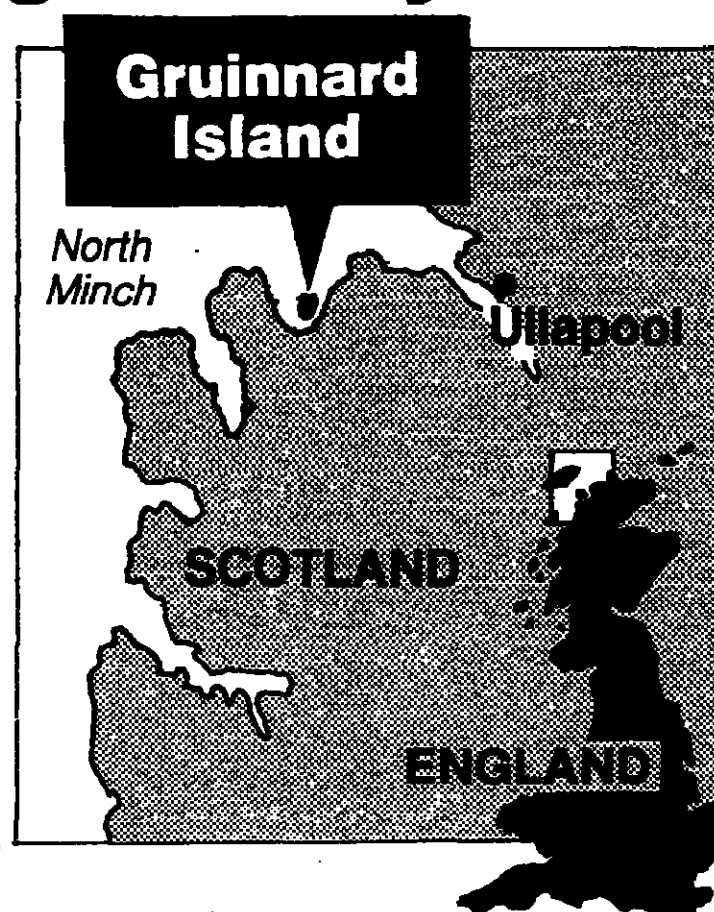
anthrax spores. They took notes on how quickly the animals began to die, and at what distance from the centre of the bombing.

Anthrax is a disease caused by a bacterium known as *Bacillus anthracis*. Known since antiquity, it is endemic to many regions of the world, and sometimes affects human beings in contact with livestock and animal products. In Britain, it is known as "wool-sorter's disease"; in the Soviet Union, "Siberian fever."

What makes anthrax effective as a biological weapon is the many ways in which it spreads. It can cause infection if ingested or inhaled, and it can penetrate the tiniest wound in the skin. The bacterium has the ability to form a spore—in effect, creating a tough coating about itself that can resist sunlight, heat, and disinfectants. These spores, which can be harvested easily from man-made fermentation vats, are easily dispersed through the air.

Mortality
Mortality rates are usually high for untreated victims. Partly as a result of Gruinnard Island tests, the United States chose anthrax as one of the agents in its own biological warfare arsenal. (The US biological weapons programme was halted in 1969, and the arsenal was destroyed; only biological defence research is permitted today.)

The British government found early on that anthrax could get out of control. Although the researchers destroyed the sheep carcasses with explosives, and assumed that any wind-borne spores would fall harmlessly into the ocean, there was an outbreak of anthrax on the Scottish mainland in 1943, the year the tests on



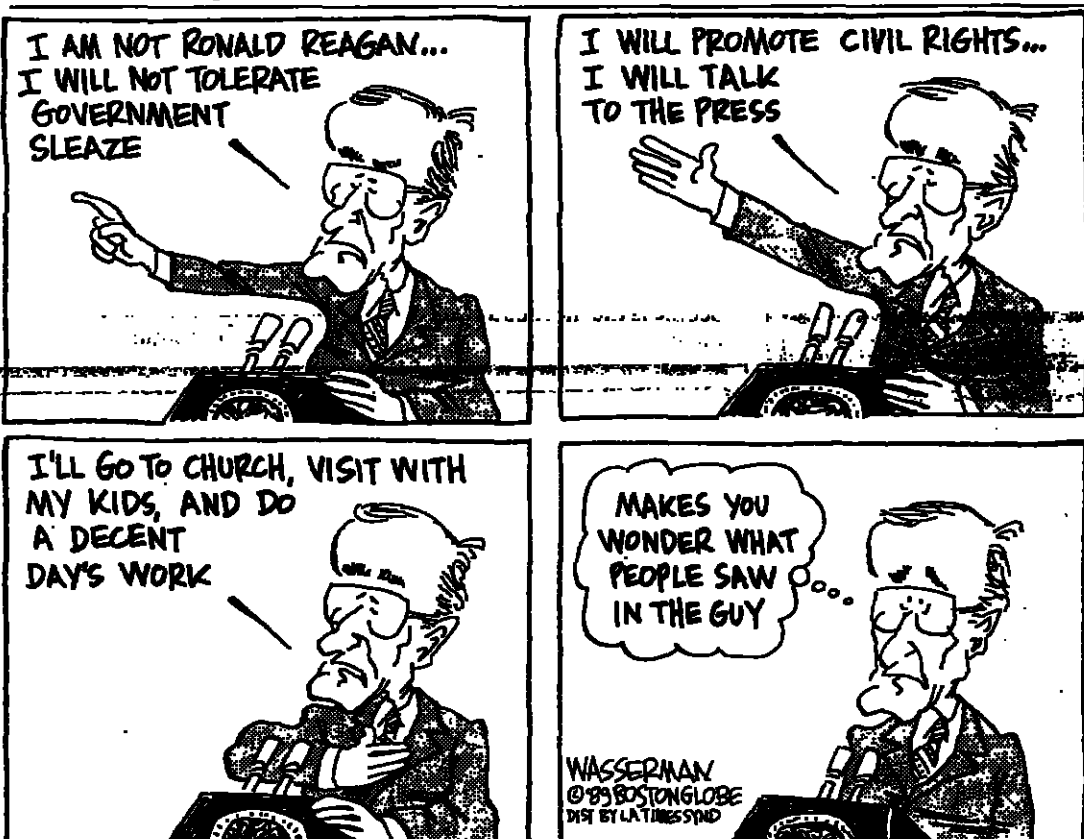
Gruinnard were terminated. It is still unclear whether spores drifted over from the island, or whether a contaminated carcass washed ashore.

Local farmers received compensation, and strict wartime secrecy prevented word of the outbreak from spreading. Scientists hurriedly returned to the island to burn off the heather and, with it, the anthrax. They found, however, that anthrax spores had migrated under the soil, forming a deadly underground lacework of infectious organisms.

That year, the British government declared Gruinnard Island off limits to man or beast. For the next four decades, signals along the coastal edge warned any landing parties away.

Warning
Periodically, scientists in protective suits would venture onto the island to confirm that it was still contaminated. Each year, the government updated the warning on the markers to reflect the current year.

One of the men who changed



Uncertainty clouds Kabul

By Sharon Herbaugh

KABUL, (AP): The American Club served California wine and cheeseburgers and showed Vietnam movies to a dozen Western diplomats about to be evacuated from the embattled Afghan capital.

The subdued gathering on Friday followed months of uncertainty about the fate of the United States, Britain, France, Italy and Japan that its embassies would shut down and its diplomats be sent home before withdrawing Soviet forces turn over Kabul to the Afghan Army.

The State Department has said the remaining US citizens would leave in a few days. Dependents and all but 11 diplomats and security guards already have been evacuated.

A non-Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, called the US decision to close its embassy "all a part of Washington's manoeuvring, trying to show to the world that this

government is on the verge of collapse."

The Soviet-backed government insists it can defend foreigners from warfare with Muslim guerrillas, who fired rockets into the capital on Friday.

The government of Afghanistan has been unable to bring peace in the entire country since the Soviet invasion in 1979. A statement broadcast on Friday on state Radio Kabul.

Surprise

One Western diplomat said the decision to close the embassy was a surprise and indicated lack of confidence in both the Soviet-sponsored government and the US-supported insurgents.

In Washington, US President George Bush said on Friday there was "uncertainty about what follows" the Soviet departure and the embassy was being closed to protect US lives.

When asked when the embassy would be formally closed, Jon D. Glassman, US Charge d'Affaires, said: "That's not information we are giving out."

Britain and Japan announced on Friday they also would shut their Kabul missions. France said its embassy would be closed "provisionally." In Rome, Foreign Ministry sources confirmed the Italian embassy would close soon.

Rejected

A battle for Kabul, which is surrounded by insurgents, is expected after the last Soviet forces withdraw on Feb 15 under a UN-mediated agreement. The US embassy is in the heart of the capital next to the state radio and across from the secret police headquarters, both prime targets for the guerrillas.

Muslim guerrillas have rejected Soviet and government proposals for a political settlement. They began fighting after a communist coup 11 years

ago and Soviet soldiers entered Afghanistan in December 1979.

An estimated 115,000 Soviet troops were here when withdrawal began on May and the last 50,000 are to go by Feb 15.

They leave behind a conscripted Afghan Army plagued by desertion. Diplomats say the Army is "not motivated."

The Pakistani government said Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will visit Pakistan on Feb 4 for last-ditch talks to prevent further bloodshed in Afghanistan.

Shortages

A statement from the General office of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, UN co-ordinator of relief and rehabilitation, said he was considering an emergency appeal for help because of severe food shortages in Afghanistan.

Insurgents control the Panjshir Valley north of Kabul, through which the Salang Highway runs 250 miles (402 kms) north to the Soviet border. They have increased attacks along the route for southbound food and fuel convoys, and few reach Kabul.

Reports indicate most Soviet units are leaving Kabul well ahead of the deadline to protect the Salang, the Red Army's land route home and the capital's lifeline.

Outside the US embassy's 7-foot-high (2 metre-high) walls, topped with coils of barbed wire, a 25-year-old Marine guard took telephone numbers of visitors and said embassy personnel would call them later.

"We're not going to let anything happen to you," said the guard, David Hinkel of High-town, Virginia.

On Tuesday, the embassy advised all US citizens in Afghanistan to leave.

S. Africa to retain foothold in Namibia

By Christopher Wilson

WALVIS BAY, South Africa. (Reuters): When Namibia finally gains independence after three quarters of a century of Pretoria's rule, the key port of Walvis Bay will remain under control of the South African government.

A quirk of European colonial history has dictated that this bleak seaport, the only deep-water harbour on Namibia's 700-mile (1,100-km) long coast, will continue to be administered by South Africa's Cape Province.

The issue of control over Walvis Bay is likely to generate a post-independence controversy between Pretoria and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO), which has waged a guerrilla war against South Africa rule in Namibia since 1966.

By Stephen Weeks

ATHENS, (Reuters): Feuding NATO allies Greece and Turkey have kept a pledge to step back from war but seem in no hurry to be pushed into a peaceful embrace.

The two countries have exchanged a string of sharply-worded complaints since last January's landmark peace summit in Davos, Switzerland, between Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

They have avoided detailed discussion of the disputes which brought them to the brink of war several times in the past 30 years: rights in the Aegean region and the military-divided island of Cyprus.

But the survival of the landmark "No-war" accord between two countries at odds for centuries is regarded by many as a triumph.

"Tension is reduced automatically by the very fact

that the dialogue is there," Turkey's new ambassador to Athens, Gunduz Aktan, said in an interview.

"I don't think Davos is running out of steam," Aktan said. "I think that in the course of this year they will gradually take up the important problems."

Care
"Davos is a baby and all babies are very sensitive," Greek Deputy Foreign Minister Yannis Kapsis told Reuters. "We have to handle them with care. It does not mean it won't grow up but it means we have to feed it regularly and properly."

The initiative has spawned some minor confidence-building measures, including advance warning for manoeuvres in the Aegean Sea, lifting of restrictions on diplomatic visas and curtailing military actions during the peak summer tourism season.

Ankara has lifted a 1964 freeze

pass through the port. So do many of Namibia's vital imports, mainly from South Africa.

Namibia's only railway line also runs from Walvis Bay to South Africa, and the town has a booming line in salt production, most of which is shipped to South Africa.

Businessmen say South Africa could throttle Namibia's economy simply by closing the port and the railway, if the territory's new government turns hostile towards Pretoria.

Loyalty
SWAPO is expected to capture a majority of seats in Namibia's legislature in United Nations-supervised elections next Nov 1. By then, South Africa's military presence should be down to 1,500 men, prior to a complete withdrawal on independence at a date still to be decided.

SWAPO has already staked a

claim to Walvis Bay, arguing that it is an integral part of Namibia, but SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma said last year that the claim would not be pressed until after independence, to avoid jeopardising delicate peace initiatives in the region.

Fishermen here hope that if an independent Namibia is able to push through plans to extend its territorial waters to the internationally accepted 200 nautical mile limit, the once-thriving fishing industry may be saved from devastation by foreign fleets.

Pretoria is determined to hold on to the port. Last month, President P.W. Botha made a flying visit to the town to reassure local residents that South Africa would defend its possession of the enclave.

Loyalty to South Africa is fierce among the 10,000 whites who make up nearly half Walvis Bay's population.

Greece-Turkey pact survives

on millions of dollars of Greek assets in Istanbul and Greece has agreed to let a Turkish state bank, Turkiye Emlak Bankasi, open in Athens.

Papandreu and Ozal have met twice to cement "the spirit of Davos," including Ozal's trip to Athens last June, and record numbers of Greek tourists have headed for Turkey.

Problems
But several public rows in recent months have soured the peace process and officials on both sides say another Papandreu-Ozal meeting is essential to restore momentum.

Among the disputes were a row over Turkey's bid to join the European Economic Community, over which Greece holds a veto, a sharp exchange over Ankara's effort to join Aegean air-sea rescue operations and a clash over which areas of Turkey should be included in Western

disarmament talks with the East bloc.

At the same time, Papandreu and Ozal have not even agreed on which problems they pledged to settle in the Davos process.

Greece says there is only one: settling the demarcation of rights in the Aegean, as well as matters concerning the Muslim minority in Greece's western Thrace region are paramount.

But Turkish officials insisted the past year was notable for efforts to resolve these disputes with words instead of guns. "If the Davos meeting had not taken place, these incidents would have... acquired red crisis proportions immediately," ambassador Aktan said.

He attributed recent doleful drams in the Davos initiative to Papandreu's health—he underwent open-heart surgery last September—and pre-election uncertainties in both countries.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1536—France's King Francis I conquers Savoy and occupies Turin, also signs French alliance with Turkey's Sultan Suleiman I.
- 1585—France's King Henry III refuses sovereignty of the Netherlands.
- 1783—Hostilities end between United States and England.
- 1874—British forces under Garnet Wolseley burn Jumaat, Ghana, ending Ashanti war.
- 1899—Filipino stage revolt against United States because independence is not granted.
- 1922—Japan agrees to restore Shantung to China.
- 1938—Germany's Adolf Hitler assumes office of war minister, and names Joachim von Ribbentrop as foreign minister.
- 1948—Ceylon becomes self-recovering dominion in British Commonwealth.
- 1961—Terrorist attacks break out in Portuguese African territory of Angola.
- 1969—China's charge d'affaires in Netherlands, Liao Ho-Shu, arrives in United States and requests political asylum.
- 1972—Britain and nine other nations recognize East Pakistan as independent nation of Bangladesh.
- 1973—Jordan's King Hussein rules out hostilities with Israel and says he will seek US President Richard Nixon's help in easing crisis in Middle East.
- 1986—Group of hard-line Arab leaders, meeting in Libya, threaten anti-American violence "within the United States and throughout the world."
- 1988—Philippine military announces arrest of 20 prominent Communist Party members.

THE NATIONAL DAY OF SRI LANKA

AN ARAB TIMES SUPPLEMENT

Sri Lankan President appeals for national unity

We must end ethnic discord

"THE 41st anniversary of our independence comes at a specially important time in our history. In the past year, the people of Sri Lanka have endured much. Yet, with rare courage and endurance they have snatched hope from the abyss of tragedy. Now, we must sustain and nurture that hope and fulfill its high expectations for the future."

"In recent months, Sri Lankans have repeatedly affirmed their commitment to democracy. This commitment will once again be confirmed at our parliamentary elections this month. Those elements who seek to obstruct or destroy the democratic process will not long be tolerated by the vast majority of freedom-loving Sri Lankans."

"The sovereignty and unity of our motherland and the rights and liberties of our people must be protected at any cost."

Foundation

"Democracy is only the foundation for our new national agenda. Heavy tasks lie ahead. We must reconstruct damaged public property. We must fully restore law and order. We must terminate ethnic discord. We must enhance economic development. Most importantly, we must end poverty. We must accomplish



Ranasinghe Premadasa, President of Sri Lanka.

all this without delay. We have started this process."

"In the years ahead, my government will begin to implement programmes that will give new vitality to the poorest and humblest segments of our society. As we commence this great and exciting venture, I appeal to every Sri Lankan to join in working for the betterment of all, and the upliftment of our motherland."

"In this effort, Sri Lankans

abroad have a special role to play. You have, by hard work and diligence, achieved a great deal. We are proud of the distinctions you have earned all over the world."

"From my personal experience, I know that while you are far from home, Sri Lanka lives in your heart. Today, your motherland needs you. We need your advice. We need your expertise. We need your goodwill and support."

"My government will be formulating programmes through which it will be easy for you to assist us in ways of your choice. I hope you will respond readily. If we are to develop our country we must build an enduring partnership between Sri Lankans at home and Sri Lankans abroad."

"To that end, I welcome any suggestions or proposals that the overseas Sri Lankan community has for contributing to our national improvement."

Task

"No visionary task can be accomplished by material means alone. We need the spiritual guidance and inspiration of the great faiths that bless our motherland."

"The spiritual force will be greater when Buddhists, Hindus, Muslims and Christians join together in bringing peace and progress to Sri Lanka."

The beauty and value of our diverse cultural and religious heritages will be enriched when Sinhalese, Tamils, Muslims and Burghers unite to work for this higher collective goal."

"In moments of celebration, we must not forget those who sacrificed life, limb and property for their motherland. This sacrifice is a human debt we can only repay by our dedication to national unity and renewal. In this way, we must assure that their tragic losses would not have been in vain."

"Four decades ago, the founding father of modern Sri Lanka pledged to create a nation where all people could live in brotherhood, justice and harmony. Let us redeem this pledge through our commitment today. Future generations of Sri Lanka will judge us not by our words, not even by our visions."

"They will judge us by our deeds and our endeavours. On this independence day anniversary, let us declare our honest intent to think and act as brothers, sisters and children of our sacred motherland."

May the noble triple gem shower blessings on our motherland and all our people."

Message of H.E. Ranasinghe Premadasa, President of Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka to continue its independent foreign policy

Friendship towards all

"TODAY we celebrate the 41st year of regaining our independence. I send my warm greetings and good wishes to all Sri Lankans and our friends abroad."

"Sri Lanka has recently been through a period of crisis with violence stalking our land. Now as we look forward to the coming year, we can say with confidence that we would overcome this crisis. We have just now concluded the presidential election and parliamentary elections will be held this month. Our people can be proud of the fact that they have bravely re-asserted their commitment to democracy and thereby ensure that the

democratic traditions will continue in Sri Lanka."

"We have now to address ourselves to the task of rebuilding our society and our economy. This is our primary task. In this we confidently look forward to the support of Sri Lankans and our friends abroad and the international community."

"We will continue our independent foreign policy and support the principles of non-alignment, friendship towards all and enmity to none. We will give the fullest support in the establishment of a more equitable international economic order."

"We will also continue our

policy of an open economy. We expect to build on the strong economic foundations that were laid since 1977 and usher in an era of prosperity eliminating poverty and backwardness."

"The people of Sri Lanka are deeply appreciative of the understanding and support given by Sri Lankans abroad and the international community during difficult times. In the challenges that lie ahead they have as much a role to play as the sons and daughters of Sri Lanka."

"We are looking forward to people of all races and faiths in Sri Lanka living together again in peace and harmony — an environment that existed from



A.C.S. Hameed, foreign minister of Sri Lanka.

ancient times, of which we have rightly been proud and happy."

Message of A.C.S. Hameed, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka.

Expats can set an example for their brethren in Sri Lanka

Social cohesion will lead to economic advancement

"FEBRUARY 4th 1989 marks the 41st anniversary of independence. This year has dawned with silver-linings. We have had a presidential election and the democratic way of life so close to our hearts, was preserved most defiantly."

"We have been blessed with a new President in H.E. Ranasinghe Premadasa. People have reposed confidence and faith in him. He is a man with a mission and a vision. A man of peace dedicated to usher in a better quality of life for all."

"The nation had faced many challenges during the last four decades and the economic advancements of the people is the most daunting of them."



Abdul Qader Hamid, Ambassador of Sri Lanka.

"Our new President has taken on his shoulders this mammoth responsibility. He is a man of many achievements, tested and accepted. His new visions and thinking will transform the economic structure of the country."

"Soon after his elections, a programme to alleviate the economic backwardness of certain sections of the people has been launched."

"The concept of this programme is that the people-based development invests primarily in human beings and mobilises their wisdom and skill to the full."

"By directly providing human beings the access to resources they can be transformed from the passive, the inert and the excluded, into productive, creative and progressive beings."

"The programme when launched will radically transform the outlook of the economically less developed persons in our society."

"An economically sound

society is essentially a stable one having no racial, religious or other differences."

"A communal canker that has eaten into our society can be eliminated by a consistent and an organised economic programme."

"The philosophy is that the economic upliftment of the people will down communal disharmony and other differences in the society."

"We, as expatriates will be able to demonstrate to our brethren in Sri Lanka by example, that, economic advancement could be achieved and it will be followed by social cohesion."

"We, living abroad contribute tremendously to the national development in (Continued on Page 10)

Sri Lanka — a land of infinite variety

Sri Lanka's attractions are the classic assets of a best-seller tourist destination. Located in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, tropic latitudes ensure a pleasant climate all-year round.

SRI LANKA never fails to fascinate all who visit her shores. Its attraction goes back deep into the roots of its history.

The records of ancient and mediaeval travellers are full of admiring references. Fa-Hsien the Chinese pilgrim monk, on a visit to Sri Lanka in the 5th century AD wrote that... "people of various countries heard how pleasant the land was and flocked to it in numbers." Mediaeval travellers such as Marco Polo and John de Marignoli made glowing tributes to this "finest island in the world," just "40 Italian miles from Paradise."

Sri Lanka's attractions are the classic assets of a best-seller tourist destination. Located in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean, tropic latitudes ensure a pleasant climate year-round. Sunny, golden beaches surround luxuriant tropical lowlands and a beautiful mountain of lofty peaks, green, valleys, high waterfalls and mist-hung tea gardens. Elevations reaching over 26,000 metres (8,000') give this little island a surprising range of climatic variety.

Sri Lanka has a rich and exotic variety of wild life and a long tradition of conservation, rooted in its 2,000 year old Buddhist civilisation. A number of animal and bird sanctuaries make viewing this wild-life wealth convenient for visitors.

History
Sri Lanka's recorded history dates back to the fifth century before Christ, around which time settlements grew up and civilisation began. Buddhism, which was introduced to the island in 247 B.C., became the main spring of Sri Lanka's civilisation, which flowered around stately cities

such as Anuradhapura, Polonnaruwa and later Kandy.

Masterpieces of architecture, sculpture, art and a superb irrigation system have survived more than 20 centuries for visitors to marvel at today. Among the most remarkable archaeological sites in and around Anuradhapura (mainly Buddhist shrines) are the Thuparama, Ruwanwelisaya, Isurumuniya, Abayagiri, Jetavanaramaya, the Brazen Palace, the 2,200-year-old Sacred Bo Tree and the colossal 40 ft. Buddha statue, cut from a rock face at Aukana. At Polonnaruwa masterpieces include the Gal Vihare statues, the Vatadage and the Nissanka Lata Mandapaya, all bearing the 12th century date-stamp.

The Sigiriya Rock Fortress, south-east of Anuradhapura is famed for its frescoes of beautiful women which date back to the 5th century A.D.

Sited
Kandy, picturesquely sited round an artificial lake, is a cultural sanctuary and was Sri Lanka's last royal capital before the island went totally under British rule in the early 19th century.

Kandy contains many beautiful Buddhist temples dating from the 14th-15th centuries, chief of which is the Dalada Maligawa, which enshrines the Sacred Tooth Relic of the Buddha, an object of the most devout veneration by Buddhists through the ages — Kandy is also the site of Sri Lanka's most spectacular annual pageant — the Esala Perahera, held in July/August to honour the Tooth Relic. This pageant which is held for 10 nights, features hundreds of highland (Kandyan) dancers and drummers, chieftains in traditional dress and scores of

Sunny golden beaches surround luxuriant tropical lowlands.



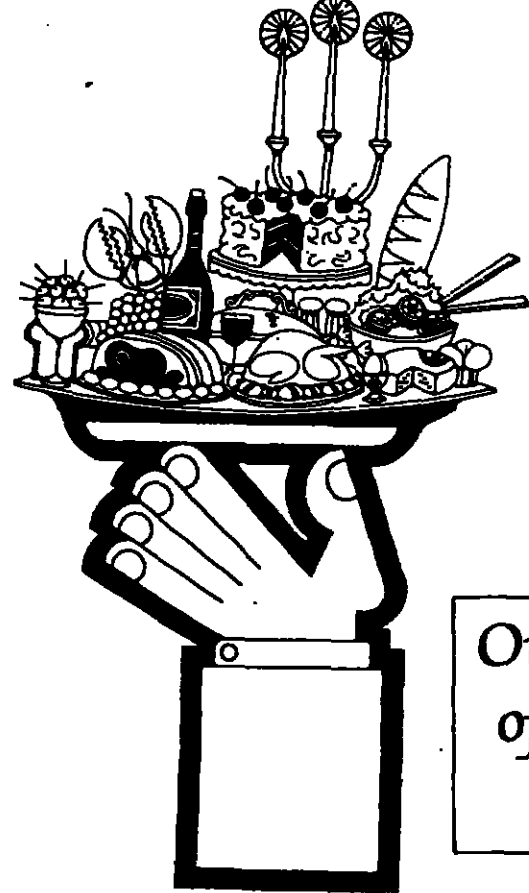
Sri Lanka dancers perform a traditional dance.

costumed elephants.

A wide range of excellent tourist accommodation is available as well as recreational facilities such as golf (one of Sri Lanka's 2 course, at Nuwara Eliya, 6200 ft. above sea-level is considered Asia's finest) trout and deep-sea

fishing, sailing, wind-surfing, water-skiing and skin-diving. A wide variety of handicrafts, a well-stocked duty free shopping complex and Sri Lanka's incomparable gems make holiday shopping a memorable experience.

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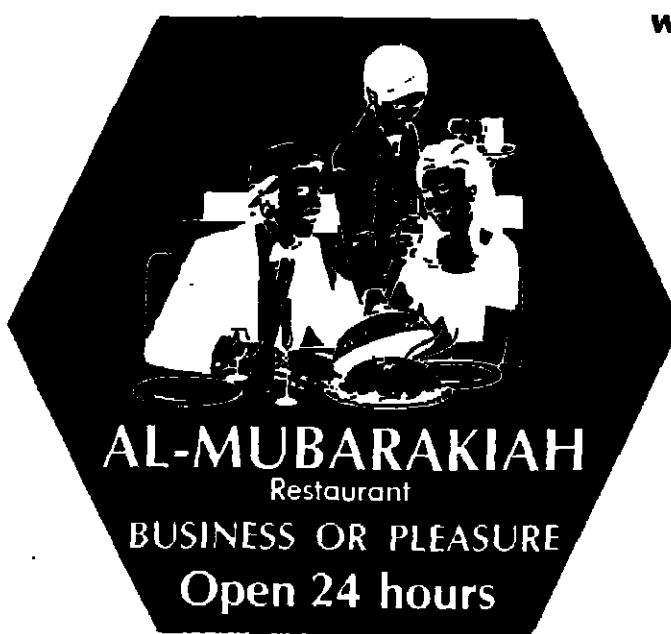
Mondays: Celebrate your birthday and enjoy a complimentary birthday cake.

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فندق شاطئ أمسية الكويت
إدارة: شركة الفنادق الكويتية ش.م.ك.



Most of Sri Lanka's reefs and rocky islands teem with colourful and spectacular fish life.

There's more to Sri Lanka than meets the eye

A variety of experiences, vistas for underwater enthusiasts

THE beauty of the warm seas that encircle Sri Lanka, currently one of the most popular of tourist resorts of the Indian Ocean, is unquestionable. But, as they say, there is more in it than meets the eye.

You must don a mask, snorkel and flippers, and may be a Scuba outfit to enjoy what lies beneath the waves, and Sri Lanka offers a wide variety of experiences and vistas for you and your camera.

Choose the right time; in winter the west and south-west coasts are calm and clear and by March-April, before the south-west monsoon, try to be taken out to the fabulous Great and Little Bassetts by one of the several dive-tour outfits operating with bases in Colombo.

And in summer (we have no off-season to speak of), the east coast is perfect, starting late March and ending in September. Try to avoid July and October but if you must come then, you can dive, but in a few select spots any dive-tour outfit can guide you to.

Bring your swim-trunks or bikinis and if you are a serious diver your special camera gear. Everything can be rented here and you can buy masks, flippers and snorkel at sports stores in Colombo. Film too, is readily available but for specialised work and 16 mm movies, it is best to bring your own. Remember that all leading hotels and resorts have a voltage of AC 230, if you need to charge your flashguns.

The accent is now on underwater photography. Most of our

reefs and rocky islands teem with colourful and spectacular fish life. They are found in the corals, rock-reefs and shipwrecks and often in the open waters as well. The delight of any underwater photographer is the Angel Fish — there are three large and four smaller species, and the larger ones, like the bold Blue Ringed Angel are notorious lens-hoggers.

Discouraged

Do not be discouraged by not-too-clear water close to shore. Go some distance away from the land by boat and find yourself in deeper, clearer water. Negombo is one of the resorts which may seem too murky for any kind of diving, but once you rent a light boat and get out to the reefs you'll be surprised.

And in these waters the invertebrate (gorgonians, urchins, sea-cucumbers, molluscs, shrimps, crabs and lobsters) population will amaze you — they also lend themselves well to close-up, or macro photography.

The very best dive-spots on the west coast are over the reefs of Arripu and Silavaturai, south of Mannar. These are remote and need some ground safari facilities organised well in advance. Visit here in March-April for the best conditions. Just South of Kalpitiya is a marvellous coral reef off Kandakuliyai but here too, it is important to plan well in advance with a dive-tour outfit.

Negombo offers splendid diving but some distance out to sea and preferably with scuba to get

to the exciting coral bottom in the ten to twenty metre range. The reef which is about three kilometres west of the main hotel area on the beach is well stocked with beautiful and exciting fishes and invertebrates, ranging from Barracudas (they are quite harmless and excellent eating) to hundreds of Blue Ringed Angels and some unusual starfish.

Colombo's fringing reef may not always be clear enough but for scuba divers, a few reefs from one to four kilometres out at sea, well known to the dive-tour outfits, are astonishingly good. Here you can ogle big Jackfish and be ogled by the occasional (wary and nervous) big groupers, plus take pictures in forests of whip-coral.

Lovely

Avoid spots where large rivers flow into the sea, like Kalutara, Beruwela and Bentota, but here again, if you can go deep with scuba, there are reefs known to fishermen which teem with life.

Ambalangoda and Balapitiya offer fair diving but the place for beginners and veterans alike is Hikkaduwa, a divers' paradise with dozens of spots to stay in and at least three dive-tour outfits in operation during the winter season.

Go by powerboat north or south of Hikkaduwa for some great diving on coral or rock reefs and with several wrecks to explore, photograph and seek souvenirs.

Galle is a fine centre for diving. Beginners will see fish, corals and unusual invertebrates in the

shallow, clear reefs by the ramparts of the fort, but the real fun is out at sea on wrecks and rocky islands off Gintota and Buona Vista.

Right along this lovely coral coast, up to Weligama and even in Matara there is good diving and for the best results and clearer water try to work from boats.

From Dondra to Tangalle the diving is excellent but only when it is quite calm. Hambantota has a rocky reef and shipwreck about four kilometres away from the beach by the Resthouse, well worth scuba diving.

The Great and Little Bassetts reefs, on which lighthouses stand, are easily the most exciting diving one can imagine; shipwrecks, innumerable fish including Dogtooth Tunas and tame Groupers, rare shells and spectacular underwater sandstone formations. But be sure to plan well in advance and consult a dive-tour outfit for boats, compressed-air and guide facilities.

On the east coast, let's start from the north end, off Kuchchaveli with its many coral and rock reefs and headlands, then down to Nilaveli, Pigeon Island and superb beach-hotels with all diving facilities at hand. Trincomalee, a lovely big harbour and dozens of rock reefs, headlands and islands to dive around, several wrecks, some ancient and even rock inscriptions to decipher with a mask on!

You never know what to expect on a deep dive off Trincomalee harbour and Foul Point. A Portuguese wreck, a

Giant Grouper, a very rare Glory-of-India cone shell, a hundred or more Banner fish circling you, just begging to be photographed.

An extended boat trip from Trincomalee south to Kalkudah can turn out to be a few days of sheer joy and excitement, diving over reefs which are little known. Off Kalkudah and Passekudah are many coral reefs and two wrecks.

Sights

The Ultimate Dive, (and, for only the best-trained and equipped please) is a visit to the wreck of the carrier 'Hermes' sunk in 1942 and now one of the world's most amazing underwater sights. Huge groupers over the two hundred kilo mark, schools of Barracuda, dense shoals of Snapper and immense Jackfish teem in this 60 metre deep Fish Factory.

Off Batticaloa, and south of this quaint town are innumerable coral reefs right up to Tirukovil. But dives to these places must be organised well in advance to get the necessary

guides, boats, compressed-air and accommodation worked out.

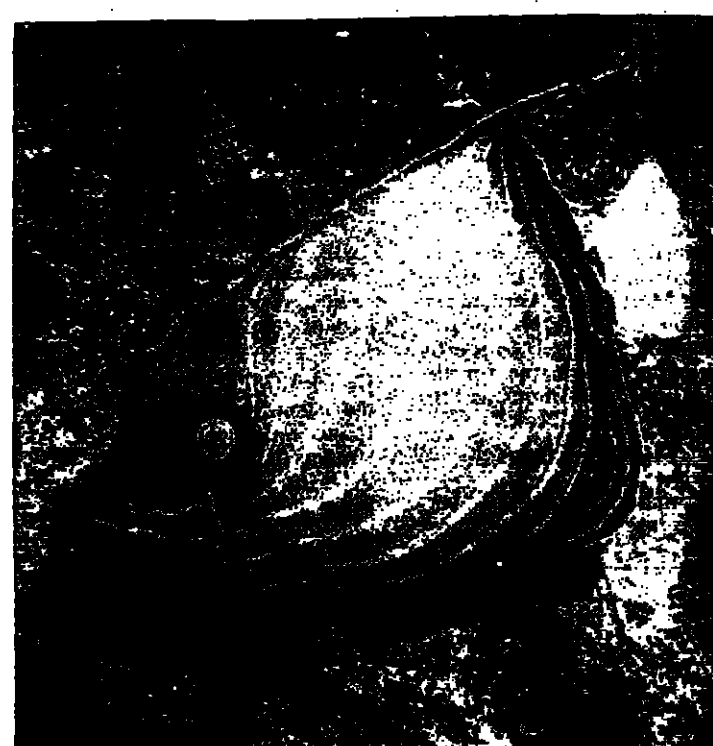
Underwater Sri Lanka — where it is always warm, exciting and friendly!

Accommodation: Excellent hotel facilities for divers and underwater enthusiasts are available on the west coast at Negombo, Colombo, Beruwela, Bentota, Ambalangoda, Hikkaduwa, Galle, Koggala, Matara and Tangalle.

The Great Bassetts and Little Bassetts can be reached from hotels in Amaduwa, within the Yala National Park and from Tissamaharama and Wirawalla.

On the east coast, hotel accommodation is excellent in Passekudah, Trincomalee and Nilaveli.

Special diving facilities: Air tanks and re-fills can be rented in Colombo, Hikkaduwa and Koggala for diving on the west coast, and in Passekudah and Nilaveli, Uppuveli and Trincomalee on the east coast. The only re-compression chamber in Sri Lanka is owned by the Sri Lanka Navy at Fort Ostenburg, Trincomalee.



The fish population under water lend themselves to underwater photography.

IN the socio-political terminology Sri Lanka is a Third World country and as common to all Third World countries one of its distinguishing features is the availability of human resources over and above the requirements of economic activities in the country.

This has created a situation of unemployment with adverse results. The sustenance of an economically unproductive population puts a severe strain on the limited economic resources of the country and the problem of unemployment has received the highest priority in all the developmental strategies of Sri Lanka since Independence, in 1948.

The development of manpower resources of the country has long been identified as a means of solving the unemployment problem, of the country. The availability of free education facilities from primary to University level has not only given Sri Lanka the highest level of literacy in the region but also has provided an educationally articulated workforce.

Free medical facilities from birth to death have promoted a high standard of health all over the country. The availability of training facilities in the professional, administrative, technical and vocational fields have equipped the Sri Lankans

Sri Lankan workers an invaluable asset

Sri Lankan manpower has contributed in no small way to the development activities of the Gulf countries during the last 15 years. In Kuwait alone, the Sri Lankan work-force is estimated to be about 75,000.

with knowledge and skills of employment required for the country and the outside world where such knowledge and skills are scarce.

Ethnic, religious and cultural plurality of the country have instilled in the Sri Lankans an ability to live in diversity while ascertaining individuality.

Adjustability and adaptability inherent in them have placed them in foreign employment without causing much inconvenience to them and the environment in which they work.

A working knowledge of a foreign language has increased their employability in labour markets outside the national frontiers.

The knack for grasping technological intricacies combined with agility of manipulative skills have

equipped the Sri Lankans adequately to successfully face the challenges of foreign labour markets.

Sri Lankan manpower has contributed in no small way to the development activities of the Gulf countries during the last one and a half decades. Sri Lankan skills have been utilised in professional, administrative, technical and vocational field where such skills were needed. At present in Kuwait alone the Sri Lankan work force is estimated to be close upon 75,000.

They are deployed in government ministries, commercial, industrial and services establishments, and personal and domestic services. One of the peculiarities of the Sri Lankan labour in Kuwait is the preponderance of females over

males. There are about 50,000 Sri Lankan women employed in various sectors including professional, administrative, technical and vocational fields. But the overwhelming majority of women are engaged in unskilled employments.

They provide services such as cleaning and domestic help. The cleaning workers are employed by service companies and enjoy better privileges than their counterparts in domestic services.

The largest proportions of the Sri Lankan labour force in Kuwait is in the domestic sector. Their terms and conditions are singularly determined by the attitudes, temperaments and dispositions of the employers. This has eventually led to good as well as bad results. It is an irony that good results are less noticed than the bad.

The Sri Lankan Embassy in Kuwait tries to minimise the bad results of domestic employment, by amicably settling the disputes between the housemaids and their employers.

The co-operation and assistance ungrudgingly received from the employers and government authorities in Kuwait in settling these disputes are very much appreciated and the Sri Lankan Embassy looks forward for this co-operation and assistance in future.

A centre of monuments and shrines

significant buildings in Sri Lanka today.

Kandy, a capital in the 17th century and seat of much of Lanka's culture, fell when the last King of Kandy, Sri Wickrema Rajasinghe, was captured by the British in 1815.

This charming hill capital with its hills and valleys, rivers, beautiful lakes and cascading waterfalls, has a fascinating share of hallowed and living shrines in the many temples, in and around the city.

This glorious city is a centre of living monuments and shrines from Lanka's recent history and rituals and practices dating back nearly 2000 years still go on within. The modern Kandy

which has incorporated the mediaeval remains continues to grow as a vibrant centre of art, architecture, religion and culture.

The UNESCO-Sri Lanka Project of the Cultural Triangle has launched an aggressive work plan to revive the previous cultural heritage of Sri Lanka and Kandy being one of the sites included in the programme, has received tremendous attention, where maintenance, renovation and improvements have taken place in a big way.

Of the 15 million people who constitute the population of this country, 67 per cent are Buddhist, and the grandeur of the Temple of the Sacred Tooth is an

expression of the devotion of the Sinhala people, to religion and art.

The Temple of the Tooth which was constructed during the reign of King Keerthi Sri Rajasinghe, (1747-1892), represents the traditional architectural expression of a multi-storey building including nearly all motifs found in our art tradition.

Stone work of this magnificent building is confined to the ground floor, while fine timber columns in the upper floor and extraordinary ivory work, fascinating metal work like brass and silver sheets embossed with "Liyaveila", "Palapethi", etc., speak volumes for the artistic skills of the Sinhala people.

(Courtesy — The Taprobane)

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Exotic flora and fauna, unhampered by humans

THROUGHOUT the long ages of Sri Lanka's history, much of the island's natural richness has been allowed to exist unhampered by man's activities. It is a little known fact that Sri Lanka can boast of the world's first wildlife sanctuary, dating from the 3rd century B.C. created by King Devanampiyatissa in whose reign Buddhism was introduced into Sri Lanka.

Succeeding kings continued to uphold the hallowed Buddhist precept of forbidding man to kill any form of life as is recorded on the many rock inscriptions found throughout the country.

The ancient kings were also aware of the importance of forests. Large tracts termed "Thabanan Kalle" (Forbidden Forests) were set aside as reserves, and "Wanathas" (Wilderness areas) were protected as pest control areas, watersheds etc. Some of these ancient reserves exist even today — e.g. Udawattakelle Reserve in Kandy, and the Sinharaja Rain Forest Reserve.

The peak of butterflies

To the naturalist, Sri Lanka offers a tantalising array of interesting and unique forms. Of the fauna, of special interest are the butterflies. Of the 242 known species, most are found in the regions of the lower foothills (i.e. upto 3000 ft.). A few — six species — can be glimpsed above 4,000 ft.

A most spectacular scene is the seasonal migration of butterflies during March and April, when tradition has it they fly towards "Samanala Kande" (Butterfly Peak), the local name for the mountain more famous as "Sri Pada" or "Adams Peak."

Fishes and frogs

All major groups of vertebrates are found here, most endemic to the island, especially the amphibians and the reptiles. Most of the 54 species of fish are marsh and river dwelling fishes, the 14 endemic species being restricted to the perennial streams of the wet zone.

They are beautiful aquarium fish of the carp group. The



The abundance of Sri Lanka's birdlife makes it an ornithologist's paradise.

British introduced 16 species into the island, including the trout found today in the clear cold streams of Horton Plains.

Of the 38 species of amphibians found here, 16 are unique to the island. One endemic genus, the nanophrys, with three species, is common in the hill country. This frog lives on rock ledges covered by a continuous trickle of water and the tadpoles share this habitat. None of the amphibians are poisonous to man.

The island abounds with many

reptiles, of which 75 are endemic. Of the two endemic species of crocodile, the commonest is the marsh crocodile. The beautiful star tortoise is the only land tortoise. All five species of turtle are protected by law. Only five of the 83 species of snakes are lethal, these being the cobra, the Russell's viper, the Indian krait, the Ceylon krait and the saw-scaled viper, and are rarely found in the built-up areas of city or village.

The abundance of Sri Lanka's birdlife makes it an ornithologist's paradise. Of the 427 recorded

species, 250 are resident and 21 unique to the country. Most of these endemic birds are restricted to the wet zone, e.g. the Ceylon grackle, or to the hill country, e.g. the yellow-eared bulbul etc. Some, such as the brilliantly coloured jungle fowl, the striking red-faced malkoba and the shy brown-capped babbler can be found throughout the island, although confined to small patches of forests, national parks and forest reserves. Among the best areas for these birds are the Sinharaja Forest Reserve and the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary.

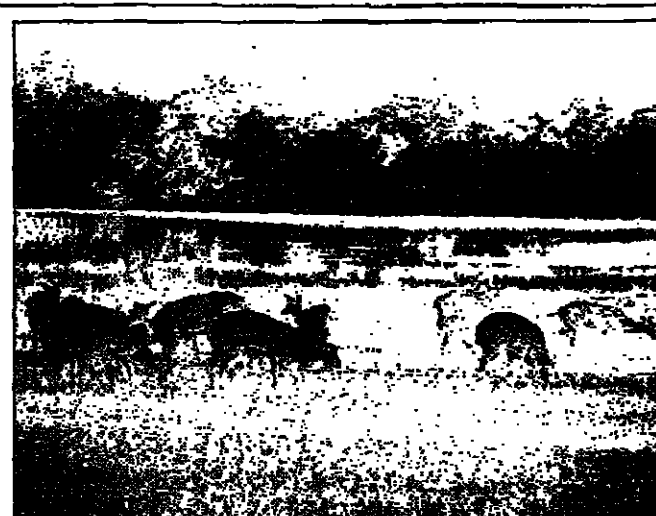
Around mid-August come the first flocks of the 169 species that winter here. Large numbers of sandpipers, stints, plovers, terns etc. fly over from Siberia, Scandinavia and Western Europe and settle along the lagoons and salt-terns of the eastern, north western and south eastern coasts.

In the forested areas can be seen migratory tree warblers, thrushes, cuckoos etc. The large tanks (reservoirs) in the dry zone attract numerous types of ducks, while the larger water birds the storks, herons and egrets can easily be spotted in the national parks.

The Kumana Bird Sanctuary in the Eastern Province, and Bundala, Kalametiya and Wirawila in the south abound with these aquatic birds, Bundala being especially famous for its flocks of visiting flamingoes.

A diversity of mammals

Of the 86 species of mammals, pride of place goes to the majestic elephant. Although rapid destruction of its habitat has depleted our elephant population, sizeable numbers can be seen in the Gal Oya and Lahugala National Parks. Extinction also threatens the island's biggest cat, the leopard, although Wilpattu National Park is justifiably proud of its leopard population. Many species of deer, the spotted deer, the sambar, the hog deer, the mouse deer, can also be seen in the parks. Other mammalian fauna include the sloth bear, the protected dugong, the wild boar, the



To the naturalist, Sri Lanka offers a tantalising array of interesting and unique forms.

porcupine, and monkeys, especially the grey langur, and the endemic macaque are common throughout Sri Lanka. Of special interest is the endemic purple-faced leaf monkey; the shaggy bear monkey found in the higher hill regions, being a subspecies of this race.

Exotic flora — infinite in Variety

To the botanist, this is indeed a land of plenty. In the country where the oldest living tree in documented history, the sacred Bo tree at Anuradhapura still flourishes and is venerated, every plant is of value to the native physician as a curative.

From March to May numerous flowering trees such as the fiery poinciana regia, the white medua ferrea, the cherry blossom like tabebuia rosea burst into bloom. Flowering

orchids including endemic varieties such as the protected daffodil and vesak orchids are widespread throughout the island.

Sri Lanka is famed through the ages for its spices and aromatics — cinnamon, cloves, nutmeg, pepper, vanilla, cardamom and citronella which grow abundantly in the wet zone lowlands and hills. Valuable timber trees include ebony, teak, satinwood, jak and milla.

Tropical fruits are found in abundance and include pineapple, mango, bananas, papaya, mangosteen, avocado-pear, durian, grapefruit, orange, lime, lemon and passion-fruit.

Sri Lanka has three fine botanic gardens at Peradeniya, Hakgala (5,000 ft. above sea level, sub-tropical and temperate flora) and Gampaha.

Two government bodies are



entrusted with the protection and conservation of these natural riches. The Department of Wildlife Conservation which manages national parks (at Wilpattu, Yala, Gal Oya, Kumana, Wirawila and Uda Walawe) and the Department of Forest Conservation which is entrusted with Forest and Man and Biosphere Reserves.

Important

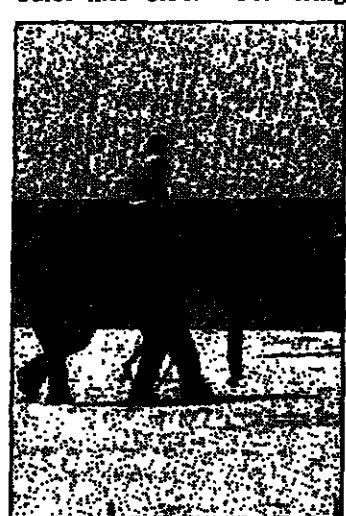
Inside the parks, animals have the right of way and visitors are not permitted to alight from vehicles or disturb animals or birds. Reservation of accommodation available within the parks should be made at Department of Wildlife Conservation, Zoological Gardens, Dehiwela.

The most important natural reserves are the Horton Plains, the Knuckles Range of hills and the Peak Wilderness Sanctuary.

Entry is not restricted and visitors can move about freely here.

Of the man and biosphere reserves, the most important is the Sinharaja Rain Forest Reserve, the last remaining patch of virgin rain forest and the largest single repository of the island's endemic fauna and flora. Entry here is only via permits issued by the Forest Dept Head Office in Colombo.

Protected Species: The law protects certain endangered species of flora (the baobab tree, certain species of orchids, ferns etc.) and fauna. Export, in fact even possession of these species as well as of live animals, birds, reptiles etc. is illegal. Please also remember that production and sale of items made from wild animals and reptiles e.g. leopard skins, crocodile skins, elephant tusks etc. is illegal.



Although rapid destruction of their habitat has depleted Sri Lanka's elephants, there are still quite a few to be seen.



An ancient tree in a 'forbidden forest' and (inset) an amphibian.

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New marketing strategies, products to meet the challenge of the '90s

Satisfying a global thirst for Sri Lankan tea

By Dr R.L. de Silva,
Director-General,
Sri Lanka Tea Board

UNTIL the end of the seventies, Sri Lanka marketed most of her tea at two major auction centres, Colombo and London, as she had done for several years previously.

In 1979, 188 million kilogrammes of tea were sold at the Colombo auction and 10 million kilogrammes at the London auction. The wide range of teas produced in Sri Lanka afford ample opportunities for the preparation of blends made up to various quality standards and prices.

At the beginning of the decade, Sri Lanka had acquired considerable skill in preparation of bulk blends. A fair proportion of Ceylon tea was exported as bulk blends with proportionately less tea going out in the form of 'straight lines' or unblended teas.

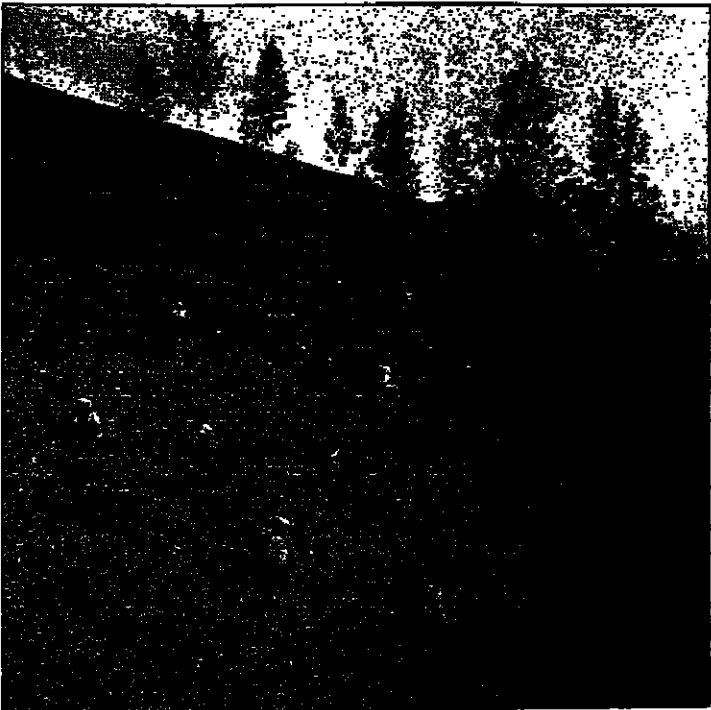
Logic
The logic of selling teas at the London auction began to be questioned. No producers in the private sector, which had its factories mainly in the mid-country and the low-country sold their tea at the London auction. Only the state sector channelled some tea to London.

The private sector in the low-country produces teas largely unsuitable for the British market and more suited to markets in the Middle East.

In 1979, only 5.2 per cent of the tea sold in London came from Sri Lanka. In 1985, Sri Lanka sold only 2.9 million kilogrammes of tea at the London auction as against 197.2 million kilogrammes sold through Colombo. A small quantity was also marketed through the off-shore auction, which was part of the London auction system.

Exported
By the end of the 1970s, Sri Lanka had firmly established for herself a market for teas packed in Sri Lanka and exported to the Middle East. Her major customers for packaged teas were Saudi Arabia, Libya, Egypt, Kuwait, Jordan, Iraq and North Yemen.

The export of packaged teas



Tea picking on a hill slope.

from Sri Lanka had reached a very satisfactory position although a slight drop in exports was recorded in 1979 by which time about 20 million kilogrammes of tea were exported from Sri Lanka in consumer packets.

In 1980, the Sri Lanka Tea Board appointed a high-powered committee consisting of representatives from the Ministries of Plantation Industries, Trade and Shipping and of Finance and Planning, together with the chairman of Export Development Board, the director of commerce and some members from the private sector to recommend strategies for the marketing and promotion of Ceylon tea.

Corner stone
The committee recommended a long-term strategy, the corner stone of which was the securing of added-value by vertical product diversification, through which increased earnings could be obtained by presenting tea to the market in consumer packs packed in Sri Lanka.

A wide range of incentives were evolved to encourage the export of pre-packed teas. Among these incentives were the following:

i) A reduction in the export

duty

ii) A rebate to compensate for export duty paid on packaging materials

iii) The export expansion grant of the Export Development Board.

Another feature of the tea industry in Sri Lanka at the end of the seventies was that Sri Lanka's exports of tea bags, the growth sector of the market, were negligible and amounted to a paltry 125 metric tons. Responding to the new incentives, including the lump sum depreciation permitted on capital investment on tea bagging machines, Sri Lanka rapidly increased her tea bagging capacity and exports of tea bags at the end of 1985 stood at 2,125 tons fetching Rs 99.68 per kilogramme of the average F.O.B. compared with Rs 56.47 as the average price for bulk tea F.O.B.

Significant
It is significant to note that tea bags from Sri Lanka found their way not merely to markets in the Middle East but into some very sophisticated markets like Australia, France and the United Kingdom. The growth sector in consumer markets are tea bags

and further assistance is planned for exporters of tea bags for the future.

In the tea bag export business, Sri Lanka has some advantages and disadvantages. The major disadvantage we face is that tea bags occupy a large volume compared with the bulk tea and tea in packets. Shipping tea in bags therefore become an expensive business.

Competitiveness in freight rates is therefore essential if Sri Lanka's tea bag exports are to be a success. There can be no hidden subsidies to shipping lines or other products to be borne by tea bag exports. Lack of resources for more promotion of Sri Lanka's own brands is a further constraint.

Together with the expansion of Sri Lanka's tea bag export business has developed a further diversification of the tea product in the form of tea processed by the Crush, Tear and Curl (CTC) method and also tea processed with the Lawrie Tea Processor (LTP).

These teas produce thick liquors favoured by tea bag producers and consumers. In CTC and LTP teas from other origins, quality, such as that which Ceylon tea is famous for, has not been noticed. In Ceylon teas, produced by the CTC or LTP process, however, a more encouraging feature has been the appearance of the 'Ceylon character and quality' in addition to the liquoring properties observed in CTC teas from other origins.

Seasonal

This feature is likely to prove an important attraction for Ceylon CTC teas in the future. Every effort is therefore being made to refine production techniques in order to realise the fullest potential form CTC and LTP teas produced in Sri Lanka. Tea bag manufacturers in Sri Lanka have been quick to recognise the potential of Ceylon CTC/LTP teas and have paid premium prices for such products.

Sri Lanka has her famous seasonal teas from Uva, Dimbulula and Nuwara Eliya together with a wide range of orthodox teas available for blending. More

and more CTC and LTP teas will also be available to provide further scope for blending.

Despite the range of teas available in Sri Lanka, if any blender wishes to have special foreign teas for blending the import of such teas for blending and re-export is permitted. With the rapid development of shipping infrastructure in Sri Lanka, it could be said that no other country provides such convenient facilities and opportunities for tea blending, trading and export.

Teas packed in Sri Lanka will naturally be fresher than those packed in foreign countries assuming that the standard precautions for keeping teas fresh will be observed by blenders/packers.

Satisfactory

By the middle of the eighties, Sri Lanka's performance in the export of tea in consumer packs had reached a very satisfactory position. Sri Lanka exported 56 million kg of tea in packets and two million kg of tea in bags at average F.O.B. prices of Rs68 and Rs100 respectively. In comparison, the average bulk tea price of Rs56 for the year 1985. Sri Lanka's exports of value-added teas had exceeded those of all other producing countries put together. One quarter of all tea produced by Sri Lanka was exported in value-added form in 1985.

Sri Lanka continues with her policy of horizontal product diversification. We now have two factories producing green tea, one factory producing instant tea and one factory producing herbal tea. In addition, several exporters are exporting scented teas with flavours of fruits, flowers, spices and other exotic scents.

It is proposed to expand this sector of the industry further during the remaining years of the decade. Sri Lanka produces essential oils from a wide range of plants. These oils could be used to impart exotic flavours to teas. The most popular ones are mint, jasmine, cardamom, ginger, clove, cinnamon, mango, rose, lemon and orange flavoured teas.

It is hoped that this decade will



A tea plantation in Sri Lanka.

see further developments in horizontal product diversification by the production of newer and better types of instant tea and the entry of tea based drinks into the soft drinks and alcoholic beverage market. Although tea drinks of an acceptable standard have already been produced on a laboratory scale further development is necessary before commercial exploitation is possible.

Hopefully, the end of the decade will see more new products from Sri Lanka to add to the variety of products now exported by the tea industry. These could include semi-fermented teas and more products in the ice-cold tea range. We can look back with satisfaction on the industry's performance during the first half of the 1980s. The rest of the decade will certainly see more

improvement, more product diversity and further refinements in packaging and methods of presentation of tea products to the world market. All this would mean that we export less tea as a commodity and hedge against all the disadvantages that commodities face. We shall also be moving closer to the consumers and provide them with more and still better products.

(Continued from Page 7)

Sri Lanka while demonstrating that we are a united expatriate grouping. This itself is enough example for those living back at home.

"I am personally proud to have been the Ambassador of Sri Lanka in Kuwait, the Ambassador of a united community who has contributed vastly to the national development of our motherland.

"I am confident that our Sri Lankans living in Kuwait undoubtedly will continue in the furtherance of these achievements and contribute specifically to the new programmes launched to uplift the human resources in Sri Lanka.

"In short what is expected from us abroad is to 'invest in the domestic production

Economic advancement
by social cohesion

process without utilising our economic capabilities on consumerism."

"Our participation in the overall programme is welcome and the mode of participation will be known to us in due course.

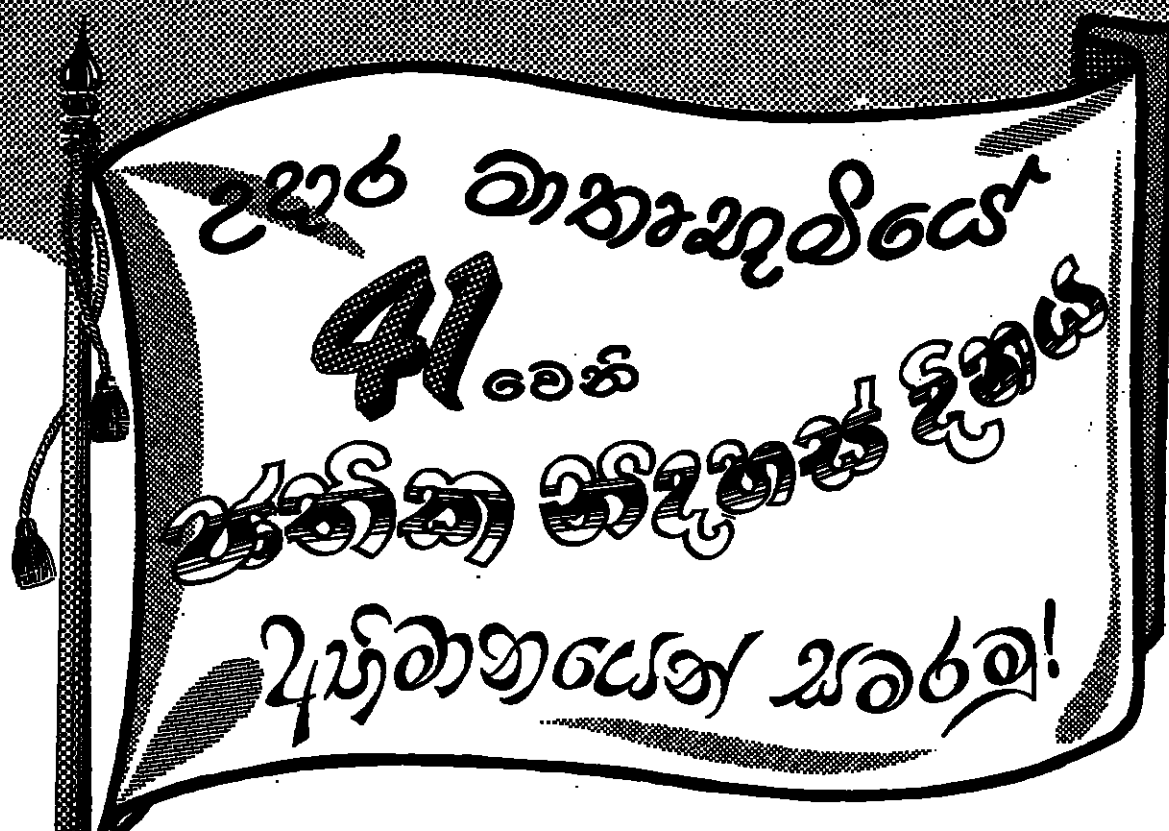
"In these endeavours the role of the excellent relations between Sri Lanka and Kuwait have gone a long way.

"The Sri Lankans in Kuwait have worked and are working for the betterment of the national life of Kuwait and reciprocally the Kuwaiti government and the people consider the Sri Lankans as good friends.

"This relationship has immeasurable effects on the close links between the two countries. I hope and pray that friendly bonds will be enhanced with the passing of years.

"I convey my warmest greetings from the government and the people of Sri Lanka to the government and the people of the State of Kuwait on this happy occasion. I also take this opportunity to greet my countrymen and wish them all success."

Message of
Abdul Qader Hamid
Mohamed,
Ambassador of Sri Lanka



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R. PREMADASA
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and the people of Sri Lanka
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SRI LANKA lies surrounded by the Indian Ocean, not far from the equator, petite and beautiful. The island's topography is simple — the mountains are massed in the centre, scaling over 2,500 metres and the plains spread all around. The rivers stream out radially from the mountains into the sea.

Latitude, altitude and the monsoons dictate the climate. In the southwest lowlands, exposed to the broadside of the southwest monsoon, the climate is truly tropical and the temperature rarely drops below 27°C.

The rest of the plains, called the dry zone, is even warmer. On the windward slopes of the mountains, the temperature belie the island's tropical location. May, June and July are the wettest months in the southwest, and December and January receive the most rains in the north and east. February and March are as a rule dry months all over the island.

Variety

The variety of crops grown in Sri Lanka is an indication of the range of climates here. Rice, the main food crop, is grown in the valleys, on the terraced hill slopes, and in the dry zone where irrigation methods, some recent and

Tropical paradise for tourists

some many centuries old, help out the insufficient rain.

Sri Lanka has been growing the "teas with the golden taste" for more than a hundred years now and the reputation established has been so good that "Ceylon" (the old name for Sri Lanka) has become the superlative adjective for tea. Rubber is also grown in quantities, mainly in the southwest hills, and on the coastal belts, grow coconut and palm oil.

A great many tropical fruits — among them pineapples, mangoes and papaya, exotic spices like clove, cardamom, cinnamon, nutmeg and pepper and even apples, pears and strawberries, all do well here.

From ancient times, Sri Lanka has been famed for gems, chiefly in the southwest around Ratnapura, so aptly called "the City of Gems". It is noted with justifiable pride that the largest sapphire and the largest cat's-eye ever found were mined in Sri Lanka.

Sapphire and cat's-eyes apart, alexandrite, zircon, amethyst, topaz, aquamarine, tourmaline and the pretty cloudy moonstone, almost

unique to Sri Lanka, are found here.

Sri Lanka's history dates back to pre-Christian times, to the fifth century before Christ, when Prince Vijaya, exiled from North India, landed on these shores and settlements grew up and a civilised way of life began. In 247 B.C., the introduction of Buddhism led to a dynamic enlivening of language, literature, art, architecture and sculpture, and a higher and nobler civilisation began to blossom around the great city of Anuradhapura.

The new religion was patronised by the Sinhalese kings, and many beautiful and impressive shrines were built in its name. The city was also adorned with splendid palaces and parks and a fine system of irrigation work, but was later abandoned due to intermittent South Indian invasions.

Polonnaruwa, successor to Anuradhapura as capital, reached the peak of its glory in the 12th century but also fell prey to invasion and was abandoned in favour of Dambadeniya, which in turn gave way to Yapahuwa,

Kurungala, Gampola and Kotte.

In 1505, the Portuguese arrived, more by accident than design, and stayed on — at first to trade in spices and afterwards to rule the maritime district. The Dutch came too, lured by pepper, cinnamon, and other aromatics — displaced the Portuguese and established themselves.

In 1815 the whole of Sri Lanka passed under British rule. In 1948, after nearly 4-1/2 centuries of foreign rule, Sri Lanka became an independent state once again.

Beautiful

Sri Lanka's population of over 15 million is ethnically varied and diverse — Sinhala, Tamil, Moor Malay and 'Burghers' of Portuguese and Dutch descent.

Sri Lanka is a superb vacation land. The beaches are sunny, picturesque and fringed by warm, pure seas. Mount Lavinia near Colombo, Hikkaduwa on the south coast with its beautiful coral reef, Bentota, Koggala, Ahungalle, Tangalle and Hambantota,

also in the south and Negombo north of Colombo are some of the best.

Landscape is exceptionally beautiful — lush plains and mountain views, some unrivalled anywhere in the world as at the Ella Gap, spectacular waterfalls, including Diyuluma, the sixth highest in the world, and tranquil lakeland.

Sri Lanka's ancient civilisation offers unique sightseeing to visitors. Anuradhapura, as old as Sri Lanka's recorded history has a host of interesting ruins, some dating back to the 3rd century B.C. At Sigiriya, south of Anuradhapura is the fifth century "Fortress in the sky" of the partridge king, Kasyapa, where are found the beautiful frescoes known the world over — ancient artistry that glows with colour even 1,500 years after. Further south the ancient rock temple in Dambulla also contains colourful wall paintings.

Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka's mediaeval capital still preserves an aura of past glory in its ornate buildings. Major UNESCO-sponsored conservation work is being carried out in all three ancient cities.

Kandy, the picturesque old hill capital has many attractions — among them, the 18th century Dalada Maligawa (Temple of the Sacred Tooth Relic) and a number of other 18th century temples. Also in Kandy is a magnificent pageant, the Esala Perahera, held in late July or early August to pay homage to the Sacred Tooth Relic. Kandyan chiefs in all their pomp and splendour, fancy-dressed elephants and Kandyan dancers and drummers take part.

Sri Lanka is well endowed with wild life — elephant, leopard, sambhur, bear and a fascinating variety of birds including golden oriole, kingfisher, woodpecker, egret, heron, painted stork, plover and spoonbill. For convenient viewing there are a number of wild life and bird sanctuaries.

Sri Lanka's capital, Colombo, is a colourful mixture of East and West and colonial and modern — where you can do all your shopping on the pavement and have your palm read by street astrologers for a song or shop in air-conditioned comfort in modern department stores.

Historians and archaeologists puzzled for 160 years

A statue that remains an enigma

By Tilak Ratnakara

THIS statue has remained an enigma, puzzling historians and archaeologists, for over 160 years.

However if a hundred and sixty years or so ago somebody who knew enough of the local language, Sinhala, had asked some pertinent questions about this statue from the poverty-stricken villagers who loathe to leave their ancestral homes batted with their ancestors for centuries the evil jungle, at least then those ancient would have given sufficient clues for a historical identification of this beautiful and wondrous work of art.

Historians are of course loathe to give credence traditions. But traditions deep rooted in the psyche of a people always help in identifying the past without reference to dog-ridden traditions history would be the poorer and more pedestrian than now and of course more subject to the individual idiosyncrasies of historians including their, at times, special pleading.

Or in the alternative if a King or a Minister of yore had wanted, like Ozymandias, to immortalise himself by getting an inscription carved on a stone slab giving some clue to the identity of the Statue then there would have been no enigma.

Unfortunately all these were not to be. For after a thousand years since this colossus of a statue was sculpted and several hundred years later the jungle tide took it into its bosom, the statue remains an enigma.

On the 28th of June 1820,

barely two years after the people revolted against the British administration. Lieutenant Fagan of "His Majesty's Second Ceylon Regiment" lost his way in the jungle north west of Batticaloa from where he had started his march.

According to the published journal kept by Fagan he and his detachment stumbled on an old ruined city hidden by the jungle. This was the ancient city of Polonnaruwa which the villagers identified as Topawewa.

This half ruined tank hemmed in by the jungle was a part of the Parakrama Samudra, the Sea of Parakrama built by Parakrama Bahu the Great (1153 - 86 A.C.) combining Erabaduwa, Dambatuwa, and Topawewa.

Enigma

A short distance away from the bank of the Sea of Parakrama this enigma is sited. It is none other than what the popular legend and belief has named the statue of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

This colossus of a statue carved on the side of a gneiss boulder and facing the ruins of what is popularly known as the Potgul Vihara ("where books are kept" or the "residence of the books") is considered a masterpiece of sculpting and popular tradition as mentioned earlier, claims it to be that of Parakrama Bahu the Great.

However this tradition is questioned by historians and archaeologists. H.C.P. Bell one of the earliest of British administrators who presided over the destinies of the Department of

Archaeology spoke thus of this Statue in the Sessional Paper XX of 1910.

"About a hundred yards east of the bank of Topawewa is a rock outcrop upon which stands a boulder now only 20 feet in length. A small shallow cave may have existed under its east side which overhangs...."

"Finally, this face of the boulder was smoothed perpendicularly, leaving wall of rock 24 feet wide at bottom, but nowhere more than 11 feet 2 inches in height. At the middle of this surface was sculpted an erect figure, nearly in the full round, standing out from a counter-sunk background 8 feet 4 inches in width.

"This statue remains unidentified...."

"Of neither King nor Buddhist abbot is the rock figure the lithic representation. Clearly it is the representation in granite, perhaps exactly twice life size, of some once famous Hindu guru."

The figure fronts nearly south, perhaps south east. The right leg is slightly bent and the loin cloth hangs down up to the ankles, held by a belt with the end of the cloth tied down in front with folds hanging down front. The statue is bare bodied and there is a hint of a sacred thread up along the left shoulder. The head is covered by a makuta or tall cap or perhaps even locks of long matted hair braided up to give a very sagely appearance.

There are very few adornments on the head whilst a lengthy rounded beard with drooping moustache and a tuft below the lower lips add to the venerableness of the figure. The eyes are half closed and they look down on what looks like a bound sheaf of ola leaves held in the hands raised up from the elbows. The sheaf of ola leaves droops down at the middle. There is a slight protrusion of the abdomen perhaps a sign of old age.

The figure resembles that of a sage rather than a king. If so who was this sage and what connection had he with Polonnaruwa, the Sea of Parakrama or the Potgul Vihara?

The historians V.A. Smith, and H.C.P. Bell have suggested that the statue represents an ascetic named Kapila for whom Parakrama Bahu built a richly adorned dwelling, according to written tradition in the Lesser Chronicle, the Chulavamsa.

In 1910 Ananda K. Coomaraswamy basing himself on the absence of jewellery, the simplicity of dress and the matted locks posed the question whether this statue was not that of the Saiva Saint Manikka Vacagar.

Question

This posed another question adding to the riddle. What connection had the Saint Manikka Vacagar with Topawewa and the Potgul Vihara? Coomaraswamy soon veered away from his bland and blunt statement that this was the statue of Manikka Vacagar.

In 1913 he reproduced a photograph of the statue and titled it "A Saint Reading." In 1914 Coomaraswamy again referred to the statue as that of Saint Manikka Vacagar and

added "less probable (but in accordance with tradition) Parakrama Bahu the Great."

Later in 1925 European authorities who visited Sri Lanka were so intrigued by the riddle of this statue that after enquiries they posed the question whether this statue was not that of the Great Rishi Agastya.

However the Rishi Agastya, venerated by the southern Hindus, is said to be a Rishi from the North an Aryan who became a Saiva Saint. Adored of Siva, Siva's Consort Parvati and son Skanda. He is said to be or to have been transformed into a pot bellied dwarf always "setting forth" a homeless wanderer carrying in one hand the Kaman-duka the ubiquitous water bowl and the Hindu rosary, which facts do not agree with this statue.

Defence

Now the statue has four names ascribed to it. Saint Manikka Vacagar, the Great King Parakrama Bahu, the Sage Kapila and the Sage Agastya.

In defence of the statue being that of Parakrama Bahu the Great it is said that in keeping with ancient traditions ageing Kings may have, whilst keeping their title, become religious recluses and thus this statue could well be that of Parakrama Bahu the Great in his old age.

It is also being suggested that what the statue holds in its hands is not a sheaf of Ola leaves but a yoke, an inverted one at that to represent his continued Kingship.



Ruins at Polonnaruwa, Sri Lanka.

This is a tenuous argument for the King, if he be the King, has inverted his yoke, the symbol of Kingship!

In defence of the proposition that the statue is that of Rishi Kapila it is said that the Potgul Vihara is in fact the Kapila Vihara and that the Lesser Chronicle the Chulavamsa, the extension of Mahavamsa, describes a sage known as Kapila, for whom and for whose students a Kapila Vihara was built in Polonnaruwa.

Tradition

Here it must be stated that the ancient records of traditional Sinhala medicine refers to a number of Sages or Rishis like Pulasthi, Kapila and the like who authored a large number of medical works.

There are also place names still extant in Sri Lanka such as Issin-bessagala "the rock from which the Rishis got down" which gives some support to the Kapila Rishi Theory. In point of fact the name Kapila surfaces at least nine times in Pali texts whilst the Isigiliya Sutta one of the Buddhist Suttas or sermons specifically mentions a rock from where Rishis or Paoceka Buddhas vanished from the human eye in the aeons before the birth of Prince Siddhartha, the Buddha to be. There is thus a supposition that there were Buddhist Sages or Rishis not all of whom were Buddhist monks or Arhats.

There is another variant tradition which links the name Polonnaruwa to a Sage or Rishi known as Pulasthi or Pulasthi. However there is controversy as to who Pulasthi was, whether he was a Tamil Sage or Rishi or whether he was a descendant or ancestor of the mythical Ravana. The enigma thus remains. It will continue to remain so, unless strong evidence is found to establish its identity.

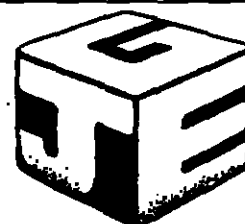
Till then the giant statue, a beautiful work of art will stand in rain and shine, hard by the Eastern bank of Parakrama Samudra.

It may or may not be the figure of the Saint Manikka Vacagar or Parakrama Bahu the Great or Vijayabahu the First or the Sage Agastya or the Sage Kapila or the Sage Pulasthi or Pulasthi who is represented in this work of art. The grandeur of this piece of sculpture thus begets an enigma, which will remain an enigma perhaps for ever.

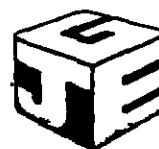
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The mystery statue which stands beside Parakrama Samudra.

Film capital cashing in on twin trend

Hollywood sees dollars in doubles

By Ivor Davis

HOLLYWOOD is seeing double — and making it pay handsomely.

The film capital is cashing in on the twin trend with three recently released films: *Big Business*, starring Bette Midler and Lily Tomlin; *Dead Ringers*, with Jeremy Irons; and *Twins*, featuring Danny DeVito and Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Twins — especially identical ones — have always fascinated filmmakers. The subject became material for dramas, including *The Dark Mirror* (1946), starring Olivia de Havilland playing twin sisters — one a psychotic killer and the other an innocent; high-camp adventures such as *Dead Ringers* (1964) in which Bette Davis portrays twin sisters bearing a longtime grudge over a man; and comedies such as *The Parent Trap* (1961) with Hayley Mills as twins who have never met until their divorced parents send them to the same summer camp.

Add to that list movies featuring look-alike who are not related — *The Prisoner of Zenda* (1937, with remakes in '52 and '79) and *The Prince and the Pauper* (1937, remade in 1978 as *Crossed Swords*) — and it becomes obvious that Hollywood has used the twin concept as a tried-and-true formula good for dusting off every decade or so.

Here we go again. Maybe it was the fascinating research on twins separated at birth coming

Jeremy Irons (left and right) in *Twins*.

out of the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis in 1988 that revived the recent interest in twin movies. According to findings at the university, twins who had not seen each other since birth were found to dress alike, enjoy the same hobbies and have wives, husbands and children with the same first names. Such startling proof that biology is destiny was too much for Hollywood to ignore.

Films focusing on the twin theme began resurfacing in 1987 with the release of *Making Mr. Right* (1987) in which a nerdy scientist (John Malkovich) creates a nearly human android in his own image. Then came *Dominick and Eugene* (1988), the story of a bright young intern (Ray Liotta) and his devotion to a childlike twin brother (Tim

Hulce). But not until late last year did *Twins* release a deluge of twin movies.

Midler and Tomlin play not one but two sets of identical twins accidentally switched at birth in *Big Business*. Audiences had barely stopped laughing at their antics when Canadian director David Cronenberg, whose special effects in such films as *Scanners* (1981) and *The Fly* (1986) had terrified and nauseated viewers, decided to show us what he could do with twins in *Dead Ringers*.

Irons plays Beverly and Elliott Mantle, gynecologists in a world-renowned fertility clinic whose love for one of their patients leads to their deaths by suicide. Based on the real-life horror story of New York doctors Stewart and Cyril Marcus,

the film covers the physicians' lives from their successful beginnings to their morbid end when their decomposing bodies were found in their Manhattan apartment half buried in garbage and drugs.

The latest twin presentation is *Twins*, a farcical romp about fraternal twins Julius and Vincent Benedict (Schwarzenegger and DeVito, respectively), which has taken in more than \$55 million at the box office. Julius is scientifically created from the sperm of six geniuses and thus endowed with the most perfect traits of mankind. The experiment misfires, however, when Julius' mother gives birth to a twin who carries all the genetic "garbage" of mankind.

One day Julius discovers he has a twin and sets out in search

of his alter ego. Since there is no mistaking Schwarzenegger for DeVito, this is not a twin picture in the classic sense — more a one-joker rib tickler as 4-foot, 10-inch DeVito gazes up at 6-foot, 4-inch Schwarzenegger and introduces him proudly as, "My twin brother."

Cronenberg's film, on the other hand, is a deep, almost demonic look into the condition of twinning, a subject the director says has always fascinated him.

"I've always wanted to do a picture about twins," he says. "But I did not want any part of the standard twin premise — the psychotic twin vs. the virtuous one or comedies in which the twins are exactly the same. I've never seen a movie treating twins as real people, with neither one being the embodiment of evil or innocence."

Irons as the identical-twin Mantle brothers tackled the acting challenge of his life. Without elaborate changes of makeup or hairstyle, he portrayed two different personalities: Beverly, an introverted scientific researcher and clinician, and Elliott, the smooth sophisticate who guides his brother through a successful medical career and hesitant relationships with women.

"I wanted a feeling of difference (between the brothers) without audiences being able to put their finger on what the difference was — and we've done that," says Irons. "It's the energy you give out that makes you different; your face changes, you stand differently, you speak in a slightly different way."

Heston attacks politically motivated criticism

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Charlton Heston, with the possible exception of Jane Fonda or Ed Asner, is Hollywood's most ardent political activist, a position he believes has earned him biased critical reviews.

The Academy award-winning star of *Ben Hur* makes it clear, however, his campaigns for conservative candidates and issues have never cost him a job in the liberal movie and television community.

But he is equally convinced some critics took politically motivated potshots at him for his performance in and direction of *A Man for All Seasons*, a three-hour Turner cable network presentation of the 1960 Robert Bolt play.

Heston anticipated that many reviewers would compare his production, concerning the conflict between Sir Thomas More and Henry VIII, with the 1966 movie version which won Oscars for best picture, best director (Fred Zinnemann) and for Paul Scofield as best actor.

He cast himself in the title role and chose Vanessa Redgrave, another ardent political activist, as More's wife, John Gielgud portrayed Cardinal Wolsey.

Concluded Based on 40 or 50 reviews he read, Heston concluded that most were enthusiastic, a few were negative and a handful were outright prejudicial from a political standpoint.

"It is the fate of great plays to be remade," Heston said in a recent interview at his home above Beverly Hills.

"I was asked if I was worried about following Scofield and I said I'd followed Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud and Ralph Richardson in Shakespearean parts. That's what happens. Those plays are going to be done over and over again.

"Comparisons, of course, were made between our production and the original.



Charlton Heston: I am not Nixonian or Reaganesque

movie. But I was amazed by the critical comments made about Vanessa's and my politics."

"I've taken a rather exposed political position, as has Vanessa, on opposite sides. But I have never felt I have lost my work because of this. People may disagree with me politically, but they've never said, 'well, the hell with him. We won't hire him.'"

"But I have begun to feel that given the overwhelming liberal bias of the media, that I get some bad notices because of my politics. Critics are entitled to give their opinions. That's what they're paid for.

"If someone doesn't like my performance, fine. But when they write, as they did, that I am Nixonian or Reaganesque in a part, it goes beyond the bounds of proper criticism.

Lousy "It's fair to say that I was a lousy actor on the basis of a performance because opinions are opinions. But to drag in a political position or describe my performance as G. Gordon Liddy-esque, as Vanessa Redgrave did, is ridiculous."

"I take issue with someone who says I look like Nixon or acted like Reagan or that Vanessa in some way was not good in the part because of her anti-Zionist position. That is outrageous.

"I cast Vanessa because in my judgment there is no better actress. In terms of the spectrum of roles she has played, there is no better actress alive.

"Meryl Streep, Glenda Jackson and Jane Fonda are enormously gifted. But none have taken the wide stretch of roles

Vanessa has. At this minute she's playing to overwhelming notices on the London stage in *Orpheus Descending*, which has never succeeded before.

"Vanessa and I are perfectly comfortable in disagreement. We don't discuss politics. I suppose she is as far to the left as I am to the right. We both take our politics very seriously, but we don't go into that."

Still, Heston doesn't believe the politically oriented criticism affected the project.

Success "It was a success," he said. "The Turner people were pleased with it. It has been sold overseas and will be run again on the cable network this year. I'm not quarrelling about that. The piece is one of the things I'm most proud of in my career."

Heston tried to guess why some of the criticism would focus on his personal politics rather than his performance.

"I suppose they are angry because I disagree with them," he said. "The conservative position seems to be carrying the day on the world scene and they resent that."

"I irritate them, because I have a rather large forum and choose to speak to the public on beliefs. I could keep my head down politically and stay out of trouble, but I shoot my mouth off."

"You do your best, you take your shot and you don't whine about the consequences. But I feel comfortable complaining about what I perceive as unfair comment and criticism for the wrong reasons of both my work and Vanessa's."

Steiger adjusts to older roles

By Matthew Heller

MALIBU, California, (Reuters): Rod Steiger, star of such classic movies as *On The Waterfront*, is fighting fit at 63 after a string of lackluster films, major heart surgery and a long bout of depression.

Steiger, once described as one of Hollywood's most convincing character actors, says he is back in form after a period when: "I didn't care very much about hanging around."

A fourth marriage and several new acting challenges, including a role as an irascible New York mayor in the newly released film *The January Man*, has helped revive his spirits.

"I've got to be upbeat," he said, looking relaxed as he sat on the deck of his new Malibu home.

"I have a great wife and a daughter who I love. I think the only thing bothering me at the moment is I hate to get old. Anybody says, 'grow old gracefully,' I feel like hitting them with a chair."

Characters A few years ago, following a 1976 heart operation, Steiger was as brooding as many of the characters he has played. The hero of classic films as *On The Waterfront*, *The Pawnbroker* and *In The Heat of The Night*, for which he won an Academy award in 1966, even doubted he could still act.

"That was part of the depression," he recalled. "I was terrified I wouldn't remember lines. I had in my mind ideas that I'd break down and run off the set, pass out because of fear."

The type of roles he played recently — his credits included *The Amityville Horror* and *Catch The Heat* — did not help his confidence and he continued to be plagued by the insecurity common to many Hollywood actors. "I did some terrible things," Steiger, who has retained his imposing build and booming voice, said with a grimace.

Wondering "My agent who I had at that time called me up and said, 'people are wondering about you. Are you dead? Are you alive?' And so I did some things that if I had been in better health I wouldn't have done."

Then came a telephone call from an old colleague, Norman Jewison, who directed Steiger in *In The Heat of The Night* and *F.I.S.T.*, asking him to play Mayor Eamon Flynn in *The January Man*. The film, which opened here



Rod Steiger: after a string of lackluster films he's back in form

last month, also stars Kevin Kline and Susan Sarandon in a tale about the hunt for a serial killer by an unconventional detective.

Steiger appears in only a few scenes, but he says the opportunity to flex his acting muscles — including a vintage temper tantrum — was too good to miss and he was gratified by the respect of his younger co-stars.

Kind "Actors are very kind to the older actor if the older actor's been respected at all," he said. "It's almost like (being) a father figure... and I appreciate that."

"I'll tell you what pleased me most, selfishly speaking," he added. "I said, 'you son-of-a-bitch, you haven't lost any of your power or energy. Your body's 63 and your head's about 42.' I was glad I still had what I thought was youthful energy."

"The thing I liked about that part for me was it's a proof of my (mental) health. I don't think I could have carried on like that if I were sick."

Steiger says adjustment to life as an older actor has "also been helped by what he calls 'one of the big moments of my life' — meeting 80-year-old Bette Davis at a recent dinner.

"I said, 'Miss Davis, I want to thank you for the memories and the warmth and the joy that you brought to my life.' She said,

"thank you." That was the end of the conversation."

"My point is you can go on forever in a way. The fine actors are poets, mobile poets. They create their poetry through their soul, their voice, their body, their heart, their eyes, their gestures, etc. The mechanism may get old but the sense of poetry never dies."

Upcoming Steiger's brand of poetry will be on show in two upcoming releases. He has a cameo part as an eccentric judge in *Tennessee*. Waltz and plays a Yugoslavian fisherman during World War II in *White Roses*.

The actor, also known for his portrayals of such real-life historical figures as Napoleon, Al Capone and W.C. Fields, is also hoping to do more film biographies.

Among his ideas for subjects are Ludwig van Beethoven in the last part of his life with his nephew and Ernest Hemingway during his final years.

These are hardly odes of joy — Beethoven was tortured by deafness and Hemingway committed suicide. But Steiger evokes a picture of contentment in his own life.

"I realise today when I sit out here in the sun on such a nice day with a nice house and somebody in the world might be interested in you, you've got no complaints," he said.

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KD. 3.500
Baby Jacket (French)
KD. 3.900



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BUSINESS & FINANCE

China austerity programme spawns black market in cash

BEIJING, Feb 3, (Reuters): Sales of safes are booming in China as businessmen hold onto their cash to avoid government controls. Businessmen are breeding guard dogs to protect homes filled with cash that permits them to trade and lend in a booming cash black market that grew out of an austerity programme instituted five months ago, the official economic information newspaper said today.

In September China introduced tight curbs on credit, the issuance of cash and on how much cash enterprises were allowed to keep on their premises.

Rules
The newspaper said these rules had been widely ignored, with enterprises hoarding cash to avoid the controls and using false receipts to conceal their transactions. It said the boom in safes and guard dogs followed from the hoarding.

A concern in Jiangsu sent a salesman carrying 1.2 million yuan (\$325,000) in cash to southwest China to buy silkworm cocoons, another sent armed militia to escort its salesman who was carrying tens of thousands of yuan to buy cotton.

One private businessman who was late in repaying a loan of 32,000 (\$9,500) to a bank was found to have double that in cash in his house, the newspaper said.

Firms borrowed and lent the money among themselves, thwarting the government's attempt to control cash flow, it said.

UNICEF seeks \$11.5m to help Sudanese homeless

GENEVA, Feb 3, (Reuters): The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) appealed today for \$11.5 million to help the millions of people made homeless by civil war and drought in southern Sudan.

"The situation of these people is desperate," said Roger Rogier, co-ordinator of UNICEF's emergency relief for the Sudan.

He told a news conference the money would be used to give food and medical aid to uprooted people living in bad conditions around Khartoum and in the Kordofan and Darfur regions to the south and west of the capital.

Mortality
"Mortality rates of children, particularly from measles, have been very high. In some villages that we had access to in the Kordofan region all the children under five years died of measles. If we could have vaccinated these children that could have been prevented," Rogier said.

He said about one million displaced people lived around Khartoum. A UNICEF spokeswoman said an estimated four-fifths of southern Sudan's six million population had fled their homes.

Top-level talks to co-ordinate efforts to support oil prices

CAIRO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Oil producers Egypt and Nigeria agreed in top-level talks in Cairo to co-ordinate efforts to support oil prices, a joint communiqué said today.

The statement, issued at the end of a three-day visit by Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida, also condemned the dumping of toxic waste in Africa and called for an international Middle East peace conference.

Nigeria, a member of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), and non-OPEC Egypt produce about 1.5 and one million barrels of oil per day respectively.

Egypt keeps oil prices unchanged

CAIRO, Feb 3, (AP): Egypt decided today to keep oil export prices for the first half of February at Jan 16-31 levels, a senior Oil Ministry official said.

Hammad Ayoub, the ministry's foreign sales director, announced the decision after a meeting of the oil pricing committee.

"Prices for the period Feb 1-15 will be the same as those prevailing in the second half of last month," he said.

This meant that the top-grade Gulf of Suez blend remains at \$14.75 a barrel, Belayim at \$13.90 a barrel, Ras Badran at \$12.75 a barrel and Ras Ghareb at \$12.45 a barrel.

Despite plenty at home

Kuwait looks for oil and gas overseas

KUWAIT, Feb 3, (Reuters): Kuwait is searching for oil and gas in places as far flung as Australia and China despite sitting on enough crude to last 250 years.

The state-owned Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) has already joined the ranks of multinational oil giants by snapping up refineries and hundreds of petrol stations throughout Europe.

With world oil prices now staging a modest recovery, KPC's foreign exploration arm is boosting investment in oil and gas concessions from Australia's arid plains to the Gulf of Suez.

"People always ask why we look for oil in places like China when we have so much here," says Faisal Al Kazmawi, chairman of the Kuwait Foreign Petroleum Exploration Com-

pany (KUFPEC).

"It is purely another means of investing Kuwait's money in an area in which we have expertise," he said.

Other members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), such as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and the United Arab Emirates, have also bought refineries and petrol stations abroad to secure retail outlets for their crude oil.

But Kuwait is the only OPEC state to have made upstream investments — in production and exploration — outside its borders, Kazmawi said.

Kuwait's own proven crude oil reserves, at 94.5 billion barrels, would last 259 years at current production levels of around one million barrels per day (BPD).

KPC, the world's 13th largest oil company, entered foreign

exploration when it bought California-based engineering firm Sante Fe International in 1981. Sante Fe now handles exploration in North America and the North Sea.

KUFPEC has stakes in nearly 30 concessions elsewhere, of which it operates about a third. Two — in Egypt and Australia — produce oil in commercial quantities.

Suspension

Kazmawi recently attended the inauguration of Egypt's Anas Natuna concession in Indonesia, which KUFPEC holds 73 per cent and France's Total 27 per cent. It began producing 7,000 barrels per day (BPD) last December and KPC is negotiating marketing rights to its share.

KUFPEC has stakes in 12 Australian concessions including the Harriot field which

produces 11,000 BPD.

Kazmawi says concessions in Indonesia, China and Congo will begin production in the 1990s.

KUFPEC looks at both high-risk countries like Sudan — where fighting forced the suspension of a drilling programme with Total in the rebel-hit south — and safer bets like Egypt and Indonesia, a fellow member of OPEC.

A joint venture with Chevron of the United States has developed the offshore Anas Natuna concession in Indonesia which Kazmawi said would be producing up to 24,000 BPD by the end of 1990. Another Indonesian area, Bawean, is due to pump up to 18,000 BPD by mid-1991.

KUFPEC and Atlantic Richfield of the United States have also discovered a huge gas field in

the South China Sea.

With proven reserves of 2.5 trillion cubic feet, development will start soon and there is talk of building a liquefied natural gas plant on the island.

"We're trying to form a consortium with US, Japanese and Chinese firms to build an LNG plant for export," Kazmawi said.

In Congo, KUFPEC and Amoco Corporation have found 200 million to 300 million barrels in recoverable reserves of heavy crude oil in an offshore field and development is under study.

Kazmawi also said he expected drilling to begin this year in the Tajal concession in Pakistan and the East Shabwa bloc in South Yemen. KUFPEC and partners were recently awarded new concessions at Ras Kanaisin Egypt's western desert and Sabah in Malaysia.

Talks marked a new start for US-Japan co-operation

Bush praises Takeshita's pledge to boost foreign aid

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (Reuters): President Bush held talks with Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita yesterday and praised Japan's decision to increase its foreign aid spending, but he said more progress was needed in opening Japan's markets.

Takeshita, who met Bush just two weeks after the president took office on Jan 20, said the talks marked a new start for US-Japan co-operation and had been truly promising.

Takeshita flew to Washington from New York on Wednesday night for talks that the two sides said were aimed at forging a close personal relationship between the two leaders.

At a closing ceremony after the talks, Bush noted progress in achieving a better balance between the two countries' economies and opening markets but added that "we also recognise the importance of continued policy efforts in these areas."

Desire

"This was a reference to Washington's desire that Japan do more to reduce a huge trade imbalance with America."

"I applaud Japan's pledge to make further significant increases in overseas development assistance programmes," Bush said, referring to a five-year, \$50 billion aid plan that will make Japan the world's biggest foreign aid donor next year.

Washington has pressed Tokyo to take up more of the world foreign aid burden.

Bush said the two had agreed on the importance of frequent consultations at all levels on economic issues. He also said he had told Takeshita of his determination to reduce the huge US budget deficit, which Tokyo says is distorting the world economy.

"You were one of our first official visitors and this reflects the importance I place on rela-



President George Bush points skyward as he greets Japanese Prime Minister Takeshita on his arrival at the White House on Thursday.

tions between our two countries, the strength of our nations' ties, and the promise that our relationship holds for the future of the world," Bush said.

"Continuity will... be the mark of relations between the United States and Japan. On occasion we may have differences, but these are the differences of friends... simply put, we respect one another. We need one another."

"We've laid the groundwork for close co-operation as we deal with the issues and opportunities of the last decade of the twentieth century. We're glad you came our way."

In his own departure statement, Takeshita stressed the need for international co-ordina-

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Venezuela to set up more petrochemical plants by '93

CARACAS, Feb 3, (OPECNA): Venezuela's Pequiven Petrochemical Company plans to set up new petrochemical plants worth \$3.43 billion as part of its 1988-93 expansion programme. This will be in addition to the 16 plants which are either already operational or under construction.

According to company president Hugo Fonat, the bulk of the output will be sold on the domestic market under an import-substitution programme.

He told OPECNA in an interview on Wednesday that the planned expansion programme had gained urgency because if it was not undertaken, domestic demand would proliferate as would imports, which, given the present situation of economic stringency, the country could ill afford.

Investment

The projected \$3.43 billion investment will be raised through both domestic and foreign sources, the latter with the help of joint ventures. It is estimated that around \$1.30 billion will be generated within the country.

Fonat said the expansion programme had six objectives: maximising the utilisation of installed production capacity, expanding existing capacity to meet growing home needs, producing petrochemicals not being made in Venezuela, increasing the use of the country's rich natural gas resources, strengthening the national infrastructure and current industrial capability and, finally, creating new import opportunities.

The Pequiven chief said that foreign investors willing to enter into joint-venture arrangements with the company would enjoy a number of advantages, including a fast-growing domestic market and Venezuela's access to certain preferential markets through its membership of the Andean pact and other regional economic arrangements.

Other advantages were Venezuela's geographical position with its easy access to markets in the Atlantic basin and its abundant and competitively-priced natural gas, he added.

Fonat said the economic and political stability of Venezuela and the existence of industrial peace in the country were additional advantages for the foreign investor.

Pequiven's foreign joint-venture partners would also be able to transfer their profits to their countries of origin and tax holidays would be available to the petrochemical industry for five years.

Pequiven, the petrochemical arm of Petroleos de Venezuela

(PDVSA), the state oil company, was set up in 1977. It currently operates two major sites in the El Tablazo and Maron regions, northern Venezuela, producing a wide range of products, including ammonia, urea, ethylene, propylene, chlorine, caustic soda, polyvinyl chloride, polystyrene, propylene tetramer, phosphoric acid, sulphuric acid, super phosphates, aluminium sulphate and sodium tripolyphosphate.

The 16 joint ventures, either operational or under construction, are or will be turning out basic materials for a host of domestic industries, including fertilizers, plastics and detergents.

Fonat said Pequiven had made a net profit of \$75 million in 1987 against sales of 430 million and a gross production of 2.20 million tonnes.

In 1992, he added, Pequiven products would be able to replace imports to the tune of \$200 million, a figure which would double by the end of the century.

AL KHADRA REAL ESTATE

(Under British Management)

Mishref — Villa — 6 beds/mulhaq/um/or unfum garden	KD 800
Sahwa — Villa — 3 beds/garden	500
— Villa — 3 beds/large garden	450
— Villa — 3 beds/small garden/mulhaq	450
— Villa — 4 beds/small garden	400
— Half villa — ground floor — 5 beds	350
— Flat — 4 beds — ground floor — s/pool	350
— Flat — 3 beds — first floor	550
Messliah — Villa — 3 beds — complex — s/pool	

Many others — Surra/Salmiyah/Buaid Al Gar/Shaab
Ring Ken Winston or Mohammed Shihada
5740258/7 or 5625316

World Business Summary

World Bank approves \$148m loan for Pakistan

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (UPI): The World Bank announced yesterday the approval of \$150 million in loans in support of Pakistan's efforts to promote private investments in medium- and large-scale industries. The bank approved a \$148 million loan for the Pakistani manufacturing sector, and the International Development Association, its concessional lending affiliate, approved a \$2 million credit. The project will channel funds to private industries through four commercial banks and three development banks, which will re-lend the money for investments in the manufacturing sector, the World Bank said. The project also will accelerate the growth of the stock market through policy changes and improve the delivery of credit for financial industries. Pakistan will use the IDA credit to train participating banks' personnel, purchase computers, and hire the consultants needed to help get the project off the ground. Technical assistance funds also will be available to the regulatory agencies of the capital market, the bank said. The expected increase in private investment will result in the creation of 200,000 jobs, the multilateral organisation said.

Dubai metal production up

DUBAI, Feb 3, (OPECNA): The metal production of the Dubai Aluminium Company (Dubal) increased from 154,832 tonnes in 1987 to 163,445 tonnes in 1988, while sales of premium products increased to 97.5 per cent from 89 per cent during the same period. According to a company release on Wednesday, "the new records set during the year in metal production, sales of premium products and in all supporting activities made 1988 a record year for Dubal since production began in 1979." It pointed out that additional capacity in the cast house had enabled the company for the first time to produce more than 100,000 tonnes of high-quality extrusion billets. Exports to 21 countries totalled 161,265 tonnes, including small quantities to Belgium and the Philippines, the company said. Dubal's largest market was Japan with 103,751 tonnes (64.3 per cent of total sales), followed by the United States 18,610 tonnes (11.5 per cent) and Taiwan 11,799 tonnes (7.3 per cent). "Total water production was 8.82 billion gallons and the average supply to Dubai was 23.40 million gallons per day," the company noted.

Japan's jobless rate drops

TOKYO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Japanese unemployment in December, announced today, dropped to 2.3 per cent, the lowest in six years, as Japan's booming industries competed to hire more workers. But the competition among companies to secure more new employees is not driving wages upward, and inflation is not now a worry, economists said. "That low unemployment rate shows the economy is growing fairly rapidly, more than expected," said Hidehiro Iwaki, economist at NRI/CC Company, the research arm of Nomura Securities, the world's biggest broker. The December unemployment rate, adjusted for seasonal factors, was down from 2.4 per cent the previous month. The government also reported that the jobs-to-applicants ratio rose to 1.15 in December, the highest in more than 14 years and up from 1.11 in November. That means there were 115 job offers in December for every 100 applicants. "We are a little bit concerned about the tightness of the labour market over the last couple years, in view of maintaining low inflation," said a central bank official, who declined to be identified.



CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT

ANNOUNCEMENT

**For Subscription in Issue No. (39) for Treasury Bills
Authorised by Decree Law No. (50) of 1987**

CENTRAL BANK OF KUWAIT, on behalf of the Ministry of Finance of the State of Kuwait, hereby announces the offering of TREASURY BEARER BILLS in Kuwaiti Dinar for SUBSCRIPTION in compliance with the following Rules and Regulations:

1. AMOUNT OF ISSUE:

The Amount of this Issue is KD 100 million distributed over THREE Denominations as follows:

KD 50 000, KD 250 000, KD 500 000

2. ISSUE DATE: Wednesday 8 / 2 / 1989

3. DUE DATE: Wednesday 10 / 5 / 1989

4. OFFERING PERIOD:

From: Saturday 4 / 2 / 1989

To: Tuesday 7 / 2 / 1989

5. ALLOTMENT: Wednesday 10 / 2 / 1989

6. DELIVERY OF BILLS:

After one week following the date of submitting the application.

7. The Provisions of this Issue shall be subject to the Rules and Conditions stipulated in the Announcement for Subscription in Issue No. (1) for Treasury Bills, published in the Local Newspapers of Saturday, November 21, 1987 and in the Official Gazette (Kuwait Al-Yaum) No.1746 issued Sunday, November 22, 1987.

LONDON (Beta Stocks)

World Indices

London Stock Market Report

Precious Metals

London Money Market

Foreign Exchange

EURLNL WT	66/0	66/0	NORCROS	342/0	344/0	U-IRNWOOD	37/0	37/0
EVODE GRP	200/0	201/0	NORFOLK C	35/0	35/4	U-UTC GRP	197/0	198/0

Morgan Stanley Capital International Indices

NAME	OPEN MID-D
A. RSTH COM	3316 3

Wall Street Statistics "Composite"

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

International Bond Highlights

LONDON: Last week's equity warrant Eurobond for Nippon Steel Corp has been increased to 1.2 billion dollars from the original one billion dollars, making it the largest deal in the market since the launch of the Eurobond market in 1980.

Brussels: Kredietbank NV, lead manager of a five-year 8-1/8% 150 mln ECU Eurobond for Belgium, raised the issue price to 101-3/4 from 101-5/8 and increased fees after initial market resistance, the bank's chief dealer said. (DOL 1301).

Washington: French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy said G-7 will discuss a series of plans for tackling Third World debt. (PLBC 1416).

London: Minerals and Resources Corp Ltd will have access to a 1.4 billion dollar bank loan, set up to finance its initial bid for Consolidated Gold Fields PLC. If the company receives its takeover effort, a Minorco spokesman said. (DOL 1212).

Zurich: J.P. Morgan Securities (Switzerland) Ltd said it intends to call two bonds it lead managed in Switzerland for PUR Nabisco Inc as a result of RJR's takeover by Kohlberg, Kravis, Roberts and Co. (DOL 1048).

London: M&B International is issuing a 100 mln ECU Eurobond due Jan 31, 1989 paying 10-1/8% and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Salomon Brothers International said. (DOL 1054).

Zurich: Japan's Take-O Co Ltd is issuing 150 mln Swiss francs in convertible notes with an indicated 1/2 pct coupon and per pricing, lead manager Swiss Bank Corp said. (DOL 1059).

London: Istituto Bancario San Paolo di Torino's Amsterdam branch is issuing a 50 mln dr Eurobond due March 2, 1999 paying 10-1/8 pct and priced at 102 pct, lead manager Nippon Credit International said. (DOL 1219).

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 12-7/8 3/4	12-15/16 13/16	12-15/16 7/8
FFT 5-7/8 5/8	5-50/60	6-00/10
PAR 8-7/8 9/16	8-13/16 15/16	9-1-1/8
ZUR 4-3/8 4-5/8	5-1/2 5-3/4	5-5/8 5-7/8
BRX 5-7/8	7-1/2 9/16	7-13/16 15/16
ROM 11-1/2 12	12-1/4 12-3/4	12-1/4 12-3/4
AMS 6-50/62	6-40/50	6-45/55
TOK 3-30/32 FOUR	4-8/32 10/32	4-17/32 19/32
ECU 7-87 8-12	8-18 8-31	8-37 8-50

Interest Rates

Following are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	7-1/2	8
3 months	7-11/16	8-1/8
6 months	7-3/4	8-1/4
1 year	7-7/8	8-1/4

BOMBAY

PR.	CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	77	75	75.50	NICO	59.50	585	597.50
ACC	332	336.50	334	GRASIN	98.50	100.50	101	NOCIL	790	795	790
ASIA PAINT	213.75	215	213.75	GSFC	141.25	140	137.50	ORRAY	24	23.50	24
BAJAJ AUTO	400	402.50	401.25	HIND LEVER	69	69	70	PEICO	22	21	22
BAR. RAYON	317.50	312.50	315	HINDALCO	182	181	183	PFIZER	72	70	71
BOM. DYING	121	123	119	HINDCOCCO	107.50	107.50	108	PRE. AUTO	44.75	45.50	44
BR. BOND	118	116	117	HINDMOTR	27	27.25	27.50	RAYMOND	70	69.50	70.50
BSSE INDEX	662.59	650.64	650.64	IND ORG	41	40.50	41	RELIANCE	131	136	138.50
CENTURYSPG	1402	1430	1430	INDRATON	84	85	84	SIEMENS	82	80	82
COLGATE	327.50	327.50	326.25	INDVOL	281.25	282.50	287.50	SPIC	40	39.50	42
DESPAKFERT	34	37	37.50	ITC	51	49	50.50	STDMILLS	235	230	235
EL. HOTEL	57	55	56	JISYNTH	86	84.50	86	TATA PUR	370	367.50	370
ESKAYEF	135	135	136.25	L AND T	113.50	115	116.50	TATACHEN	116	116	1217
ESSAR	22.50	22	22.50	MARINDRA	84	82	86	TELCO	740	747.50	570
GAR. POLY	82.50	78.75	82.50	MASTERSHR	15.25	15	15.25	TISCO	1210	1217	752.50
GE. SHIP	37	36.75	37.15	NATHER PL	52	57	58	VOLTA	575	555	575

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR.	CLOSE
AEG	195.0	195.5	
ALLIANZ VR	1853.0	1857.0	
BADENWERK	179.0	177.5	
BASE	288.0	285.8	
BAYER	302.7	303.0	
BAYER HYP	372.0	371.5	
BAYER VER	380.0	384.0	
BBC	377.5	376.0	
BHF	430.0	421.0	
BMW	513.5	512.0	
COMMERZBK	245.5	246.0	
CONTI GUMM	264.0	263.5	
DATMER BEN	676.0	676.0	
DEUTSC BNK	527.5	524.5	
DLW	492.0	492.0	
DRESNER B	298.5	300.5	
DT BARCOCK	167.0	165.0	
FAZ. INDEX	554.90	552.00	
FELDMUEHLE	325.0	315.0	
GOLDSCHMID	416.0	383.0	
HARPER	478.0	483.0	
HOECHST AG	302.5	301.7	
HOESCH	256.0	222.5	
HORTEN	234.5	231.0	
HUSSEL HLD	460.0	454.0	
KALI SALZ	197.0	193.0	
KARSTADT	440.5	435.0	
KAUFHOFF	428.5	422.0	
KLOECK H	174.0	172.0	
KLOECK W	164.0	156.2	
LINDE	780.0	774.0	
LUFTHANSA	170.0	170.0	
MAN	255.5	250.5	
MANNESMAN	214.5	215.5	
MERCEDES	552.0	557.0	
METALLURG	395.0	393.0	
METRO PF	340.0	336.0	
MORSK HYD	38.50	38.20	
PHILIP KOP	676.8	658.0	
PORSCHE	717.0	680.0	
PREUSSAG	251.0	250.0	
PMA	284.0	270.0	
RHEINMETAL	427.0	430.0	
RHE	245.2	246.0	
RHE P	226.5	225.0	
SALAMANDER	355.0	357.0	
SCHERING	630.0	612.0	
SEL	275.2	270.0	
SIEMENS	526.5	523.5	
THYSEN	214.0	209.2	
VARTA	350.0	343.0	
VEBA	279.7	279.3	
VEW	170.2	170.0	
VOLKSWAGEN	321.0	317.0	

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR.	CLOSE
C R TUNNEL	15.30	15.20	
CHUNG K	10.50	10.10	
CHINA GAS	19.20	19.40	
CHINA L-P	15.10	15.00	
CHINA MOTR	27.20	26.10	
COSONO PROP	3.80	3.80	
EVERGOLD IND	3.55	3.55	
FAR EAST C	1.03	1.00	
GEN ORIENT	0	0.00	
H C DEVELOP	9.60	9.50	
H S INDEX	105.96	59.54	
HANG LUNG	6.45	6.30	
HANG SENG	32.50	32.50	
HAM PAR BR	11.60	11.60	
HK ELEC CO	7.80	7.70	
HK KOWLOON	10.50	10.50	
HK LAND CO	10.90	10.60	
HK SHAN BK	7.35	7.25	
HK SHAN HT	6.40	6.35	
HK TELE CO	5.65	5.55	
HUTCH WHAN	10.90	10.90	
IND EQ PAC	11.40	11.20	
JARDINE M	18.60	18.30	
KOALCON M	9.55	9.35	
NEW WORLD	15.00	14.50	
PAUL Y CON	1.60	1.56	
REALTY DEV	7.60	7.60	
S H K CO	2.95	2.67	
S H K PROP	14.90	14.60	
SIME DARBY	2.60	2.57	
STELLUS HFG	3.07	3.00	
SWIRE PAC	21.20	21.00	
T V B CO	1.35	1.31	
TAT CHEUNG	4.70	4.57	
UNION BANK	1.76	1.74	
WOCK HAD	0	0	
WOCK MARI	0	0	
WORLD INTL	5.05	4.97	

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST	PR.	CLOSE
AIJINOMOTO	2960	3010	
AKAI ELEC	726	735	
AOKI	1190	1190	
ASARI GLS	1990	1990	
ASARI OPT	770	775	
BANK TOKYO	1700	1690	
BRIDGESTON	1440	1420	
CANON	1510	1480	
CASIO COMP	1450	1410	
CRUISE PIM	1570	1590	
CITIZEN V	965	965	
D-ICI KAN	3560	3560	
DAI NIP IK	869	870	
DAI NIP PT	2510	2490	
DAI NIP SC	1050	1040	
DAI NIP TO	957	930	
DAICEL	925	925	
DAIWA H	2110	2090	
DAIWA SEC	2540	2500	
EBRA MFG	1380	1370	
EISAI	2100	2090	
FUJITSU	1510	1530	
FUJI BANK	3590	3600	
FUJI PHOTO	3500	3460	
FUJISAWA	1840	1870	
FUJITA CP	1100	1070	
HITACHI	1610	1610	
HONDA MOT	2100	2090	
ISSETAN	2480	2440	
ITO YOKADO	4440	4490	
JAP SYN RU	1210	1210	
JAPAN AIR	17400	17600	
JAPAN MET	820	849	
KAJIMA	2080	2000	
KANSAI EL	5580	5660	
KAO SOAP	1750	1720	
KANASAKI H	940	915	
KIRIN BREW	1940	1950	
KOBAYASHI	1170	1110	
KUBOTA LTD	989	988	
KYOCERA	5060	5080	
MAKITA EL	1620	1620	
MARUI	3060	3040	
MATSUDA EI	2480	2490	
NATSUTA EL	0	2660	
MEIJI SEIK	985	996	
NITTSUB CP	1490	1450	
NITTSUB EL	1090	1070	
NITTSUB HVI	1170	1160	
NITTSUBI CO	1160	1080	
NITSUKOSHI	2460	2480	
NITSUMI EL	1060	1040	
NICHICON	1370	1380	
NINON CHMT	1130	1080	
NIKKO SEC	2000	1930	
NIP ELEC	1910	1900	
NIP KOKKAN	970	970	
NIP OIL	1570	1560	
NIP STEEL	914	909	
NIP YUSEN	914	910	
NIS MOTOR	1340	1350	
NISURA SEC	3880	3870	
ONKYO CO	985	981	
OLYMPUS	0	1120	
PENTA OCN	1150	1170	
PIONEER	3270	3320	
RENOVA	990	989	
RICOH	1200	1200	
SANKYO	2350	2360	
SANYO ELEC	804	802	
SEIYU ST	2380	2380	
SEIKISUI PB	1980	1980	
SHARP	1190	1190	
SHISEIDO	1700	1690	
SONY	7060	7150	
SUNITOMO	1450	1370	
TAISEI	1450	1400	
TAISHO MRM	1400	1380	
TAKEDA CH	2550	2560	
TEIJIN	865	865	
TKD NEW IX	465.62	456.35	
TKD NEW IX	2230	2220	
TOKYO ELEC	1340	1340	
TOKYO GAS	1380	1370	
TOKYO POWR	7650	7600	
TORAY IND	940	948	
TOSHIBA EL	1090	1070	
TOTO	2200	2130	
TOYO KOGYO	801	801	
TOYOTA MOT	2570	2600	
YAMAHA	1460	1470	
YAMAICHI	1950	1890	
YAMAGUCHI	3870	3940	
YAMAZAKI	1480	1490	

Tokyo Stock Market Report

TOKYO STOCKS RISE TO NEW RECORD CLOSE

TOKYO, FEB 3, REUTER - SHARE PRICES ROSE TO END THE WEEK AT A NEW CLOSING HIGH IN HEFTY TRADING ON THE BACK OF BUYING IN CONSTRUCTION STOCK. INVESTORS WERE ENCOURAGED THAT THE DOLLAR HELD UNDER 130 YEN OVERNIGHT AND TODAY, BROKERS SAID.

"IT IS A BULLISH FRIDAY - WE'VE DONE TWO BILLION SHARES," SAID PAUL MCGILVERA, A BROKER AT JARDINE FLEMING SECURITIES LTD. "IT IS A VERY DOMESTIC MARKET TODAY WITH CONCENTRATION IN CONSTRUCTION SHARES SPREADING THE RAILWAYS AND REAL ESTATE."

THE NIKKEI INDEX ROSE 187.48 POINTS, OR 0.60 PCT, TO A NEW RECORD CLOSE OF 31,685.78, A REPEAT OF LAST WEEK WHEN THE NIKKEI ENDED AT THE PREVIOUS RECORD 31,679.07 ON SATURDAY.

THE NIKKEI ROSE 137.62 POINTS ON THURSDAY, BUT SHARP LOSSES ON OTHER DAYS ONLY BROUGHT THE INDEX 6.71 POINTS HIGHER IN THE WEEK.

THE FIRST SECTION INDEX, OR TOPIX, ROSE 9.27 POINTS TO 2,465.62 AFTER AN 11.30-POINT GAIN ON THURSDAY.

THE BUYING FOCUS NARROWED FROM EARLIER IN THE DAY, AND WINNERS AND LOSERS WERE ALMOST MATCHED - 465 ISSUES WERE HIGHER, 443 LOWER AND 174 UNCHANGED.

TURNOVER WAS TWO BILLION SHARES AGAINST 1.3 BILLION, THE FIRST TIME VOLUME HAS BEEN AT SUCH HIGH LEVELS IN OVER THREE MONTHS. OCTOBER 28 OF LAST YEAR SAW 2.5 BILLION SHARES.

THE BIGGEST GAINERS WERE SECURITIES HOUSE, RAILWAY/BUS, CONSTRUCTION, REAL ESTATE, ROLLING STOCK, TRUCKING, WAREHOUSE, NON-LIFE INSURANCE, TRADING HOUSE AND GLASS/CEMENT ISSUES.

PHARMACEUTICAL, COMMUNICATIONS, RUBBER, MINING, AIRLINE, ELECTRICAL, CREDIT/LEASE, FOOD, PULP/PAPER AND CHEMICAL SHARES LED THE DECLINES.

"BASICALLY IT'S A VERY STRONG DAY. THERE'S A BROAD SAMPLE OF PARTICIPANTS AND THERE ARE DEFINITELY INSTITUTIONS IN THERE AS WELL," SAID ONE FOREIGN BROKER.

DEALERS OF BROKERAGES WERE QUITE ACTIVE, WHILE FOREIGNERS AND INDIVIDUALS WERE HEAVY BUYERS, BROKERS SAID.

Hong Kong Market Report

HONG KONG, FEB 3, REUTER - REFRESHED AFTER A TWO-DAY CORRECTION, HONG KONG'S BULL MARKET CLOSED THE CHINESE YEAR OF THE DRAGON BY SURGING TO ITS THIRD POST-CRASH HIGH THIS WEEK.

LOCAL BUYING, FIERCE ENOUGH TO OVERCOME SUBSTANTIAL INSTITUTIONAL SELLING, SENT THE HANG SENG INDEX PAST THE 3,100 BARRIER TO CLOSE 46.42 POINTS HIGHER AT 3,105.96. TRADING WILL RESUME NEXT THURSDAY.

"THE STRENGTH IS SURPRISING ME. IT'S EUPHORIA," SAID AN ANALYST AT A U.K. BROKERAGE. "STOCKS ALWAYS COME OFF BEFORE CHINESE NEW YEAR," SAID ANOTHER, "BUT NO ONE IS GOING TO RISK GETTING LEFT BEHIND ON THIS ROLL."

AMMAN

As of 1.2.89	OPNG	CLSD	JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.80	2.82
			JOR PAPER CARDBRGK <th>3.50</th> <th>3.65</th>	3.50	3.65
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.12	2.23	JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	4.46	4.45
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.36	2.43	JOR PIPES MANUFAC	1.96	1.94
ARAB BANK	149.0	156.4	JOR PRESS/PUBLIS.	1.90	1.90
ARAB CHEMICAL DTER	4.62	4.42	JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.40
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	2.44	2.41	JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.23	1.29
ARAB INSURANCE	1.10	1.12	JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.63	0.63	JOR SELPHO CHEN	3.10	3.26
ARAB INT. UNION INS	1.21	1.25	JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.88	1.85
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	0.88	0.92	JOR WORSTED MLL	5.00	5.00
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.50	2.45	JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.94	0.91
ARAB PAPER CON/TRA	0.40	0.42	JOR. PETROLIUM REF	8.75	8.76
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	3.03	3.18	JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
ARAB PHARMA/CHEN	0.76	0.75	JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	2.62	2.70
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---	JORDAN GULF REAL	0.45	0.45
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65	JORDAN DAIRY	1.12	1.10
BANK OF JORDAN	16.25	17.06	JORDAN GULF BANK	1.28	1.30
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95	JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	30.00	31.50	JORDAN INSURANCE	3.85	4.04
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25	JORDAN ISLAMIC BHK	1.95	2.05
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.66	0.66	JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.50	1.58
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.89	2.80	JORDAN TANNING	2.15	2.15
DARCO/INVEST/HOLS.	0.87	0.91	LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.74 <th>0.71</th>	0.71
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.68	0.71	NACH/REG/RENT/MAIN	0.83 <th>0.82</th>	0.82
GARAGE OWNERS OFF	0.46	0.55	NAS INDUSTRIES	0.69 <th>0.73</th>	0.73
GENERAL INVESTMENT	2.39	2.30	NED EAST EXCHANGE	1.21	1.21
GENERAL MINING.	1.50	1.42	MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.80	0.80
HIMMER MINERALS	0.75	0.75	NED. EAST INS	1.54	1.62
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44	MINERAL RES. SEARCH	0.74	0.74
IND. /MATCH JENCO	0.79	0.82	NAT. FIB. INVEST CO	2.10	2.21
INDSTL DEVLPT BHK	1.63	1.70	NAT/CABEL/WHSE/RF	1.61	1.69
INDSTRL/COMM/AGR	1.84	1.88	NATIONAL ANLIA INS	1.42	1.48
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75	NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.46	0.45
INTERN. CO./INV	0.13	0.13	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	1.04	1.09
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.90	NATIONAL STEEL	3.12	3.25
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64	ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
ITERMED/PETRI/CH	1.97	1.97	PETRA BANK	2.60	2.73
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80	PETRA JOR. INS.	0.35	0.35
J. TOURISM INC	1.26	1.25	PHILADELPHIA INS.	1.10	1.13
J. TOBACCO/CIGARET	20.00	20.00	RAPIA INDUSTRIAL	1.13	1.19
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	20.00	20.00	REAL ESTATE INV.	0.68	0.68
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05	SHIPPING LINES	1.10	1.16
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.84	1.86	SHING LINES	1.22	1.27
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22	THE HOUSING BANK	1.25	1.20
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.20	1.18	UNIVERSAL INSURANCE	3.82	3.75
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.30	UNIVERSAL CHEM. IND	0.65	0.68
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	3.13	3.13	UNIVERSAL INS.	0.93	0.96
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20	WOLKOW INDUSTRIES	1.37	1.38
			YARMOUK INSURANCE		

Dubai '89 gives a great push to commerce and trade

Exhibitors from around the world praise air show

DUBAI, Feb 3, (Agencies): An aerobatics display by a pair of US Navy F-16 Hornets marked the closing yesterday of the five-day Dubai '89 International Aerospace Exhibition, one of the largest air shows ever staged in the Middle East.

UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid cut the ceremonial ribbon to declare the event open.

More than 200 exhibitors from around the world displayed aircraft and aviation technology during the show.

Combat aircraft were flown in by the United States, Britain, France and Italy. China presented a display of weapons that included tanks and artillery.

The Hornets were from the US Constellation, an aircraft carrier currently on station in the North Arabian Sea.

Features
Officials of Airbus Industrie, The European consortium, announced the signing of a contract for three A300-600 R jetliners by the Dubai-based Emirates airline.

Egypt's national carrier Egyptair said earlier that it had agreed to purchase seven Airbus A320s, with options for three more.

Sheikh Mohammed, accompanied by top UAE officials and leaders of delegations from the GCC countries, went on to the tarmac with dozens of television and newspaper cameramen crowding around him.

"I have visited many high-profile air shows in Europe, but Dubai '89 has a very high standard," he said after meeting the pilots of the civilian and military aircraft.

At each military jet and

civilian aircraft, top representatives of the companies which manufacture them briefed Sheikh Mohammed on key features of the aircraft.

When Sheikh Mohammed was taken to the Mirage jets; for instance, Serge Dassault, the top man at Dassault, the manufacturer of Mirage and Alpha fighter jets, himself was there.

The Dubai '89 bears little comparison with previous exhibitions held either in Dubai or anywhere in the Middle East. As both professionals and visiting dignitaries pointed out, the inclusion of military aircraft and flying displays added shine to a show that otherwise would have been dry industry-oriented.

That sentiment was strongly voiced by exhibitors of equipment used in different aspects of civil aviation.

A German delegate said: "The flying displays make a lot of difference. At shows where no such attractions are available, deals may be struck but excitement and colourful atmosphere would not be generated."

Impressive
Also impressive were the military freighter the BAe146 and the Pilatus PC-6 and PC-9 which gave a stirring performance in control and flexibility.

Of course, the Airbus 320 that has been so much in the news recently, was a major attraction and it completed its routine impeccably, proving its noise abatement ability and its promise as an option on the middle hand market.

The French made Alpha jet, a waspish, sharp, subsonic advanced light attack and training aircraft has for 15 years found

service in eight air forces from Asia, Africa, Europe and the Middle East with over 500 sales. And it is still a hot contender in the battlefield reconnaissance and close support categories.

UAE Minister and other top officials who attended the opening ceremony were overtly proud of the extraordinary achievement that Dubai '89 has become for the country as a whole.

Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed, chief of the UAE Air Force said: "Marvellous. It is a show of great standard. We are proud to see such an international exhibition here. I have no doubt that we will gain from this and hope the next one will be bigger."

Push

And the chief of the Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Saeed Al Oteiba, pointed out: "An exhibition like Dubai '89 gives commerce and trade a great push all over the UAE. It should be organised regularly. What Dubai government has done is very commendable."

Mohammed Saeed Al Mulla, Minister of Communications, said: "We want more exhibitions like this held for the benefit of the country and the entire region."

The Dubai '89 aerospace exhibition, termed by aviation experts as a veritable showcase for the most sophisticated avionics equipment in the world today, adds yet another feather to the cap of Dubai Civil Aviation authorities and joint hosts, Emirates airline.

With exhibitors from around the world pouring praise on Dubai '89 — the region's first



UAE Defence Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid cuts the ceremonial ribbon to officially open Dubai '89, the Mideast's biggest-ever show that brought together the latest in civilian and military aircraft industry.

combined civil and defence air show — the organisers pledged that it will be even bigger, and better, when it is staged in two years' time.

Confident

And as representatives of more than 200 companies from 20 countries headed away from Dubai International Airport, many were confident of winning major orders as a result of contacts made during the show, which also attracted defence delegations from Oman, Saudi Arabia and Morocco.

The leader of the Australian delegation at Dubai '89, Walter

Hucker, said interest shown in his country's advanced equipment — including radar and surveillance products — could lead to sales worth more than \$3 billion. "This was far beyond our expectations," said Hucker. "The Dubai exhibition now ranks as one of the world's major aviation showcases."

Commitment

That tribute was echoed by Jean Pierson, President of Airbus Industrie, while Sir Raymond Lygo, Managing Director and Chief Executive of another of the major international exhibitors,

British Aerospace, said: "The show is an outstanding success."

Emphasising a firm commitment to staging Dubai '91, Virginia Kern, Managing Director of show organisers Fairs and Exhibitions Ltd, said: "Now that the event is firmly established on a truly international level, we are confident of attracting many more exhibitors and delegates in two years' time."

She added that the 1991 show is likely to see a leading aerobatics display team taking part in the daily flying displays, while a special day for the public is also planned.



The crowd on opening day visiting the static display of aircraft at Dubai '89, the Mideast's unique aviation exhibition.

Made in Japan tag worries Japanese firms manufacturing abroad

TOKYO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Japanese firms have shifted much of their manufacturing abroad to avoid national trade barriers but now they worry that "Made in Japan" labels might still be pasted on those foreign-made products.

Japanese brands signify quality to many consumers worldwide, but for some countries such goods represent unwelcome competition — even if they are actually made locally.

The European Economic Community in particular and some US industries argue that Japanese firms' overseas production often involves so-called "screw driver" assembly while Japan continues to manufacture the high-technology parts at home.

Define
"It's a question of how you define what is really a home-grown product and what is basically an import," said Tony Moyer, securities analyst at SBCI Securities (Asia).

"There is a feeling that yes, jobs are created and capital is invested but that the receiving country's technology is not improved and may be impoverished," he said.

In late January an EEC committee ruled that photocopyers assembled by the US subsidiary of Ricoh Co Ltd did not qualify as US-made and should be subject to punitive duties applied to photocopyers imported from Japan.

An EEC spokesman in Tokyo said the ruling stemmed from the EEC view that Japanese firms have set up overseas assembly plants specifically to avoid anti-dumping duties.

A Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) official said the EEC ruling was arbitrary and did not constitute an application of the

general EEC rule which defines country of origin as the place where the "last substantial transformation" in the production process occurs.

"They are just making up a rule to suit themselves," he said.

An EEC regulation expected to come into force this month will also require microchip makers to carry out an essential part of the production of semiconductor circuits in EEC-based plants if the chips are to be considered EEC-made.

Japanese car makers are among the firms most closely watching the country of origin issue. "We are very concerned about the increasing tendency to place a national label on investment," a Nissan Motor Co Ltd executive said recently.

Nissan is in a battle with France over whether its cars made in England are to be labelled Japanese or European.

Vehicles

Paris argues 80 per cent of the cars' parts must be procured in the EEC if the vehicles are to qualify as EEC-made and hence exempt from an unofficial French quota on Japanese exports.

London and Nissan say the British-made Bluebirds have more than 70 per cent local content and should be seen as European.

In the United States, Japanese firms are facing calls that their locally-produced cars be included in Japan's voluntary restraints on exports to the United States.

Japan said in January it would retain its quota of 2.3 million cars for the year starting April 1. Japanese companies are expected to have the capacity to make far more cars than the United States by the early 1990s.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 3, (Reuters): Domestic selling virtually wiped out early gains, with some brokers blaming nervousness before this weekend's G-7 meeting. The All Ordinaries index was up 0.8 at 1,511.5.

TOKYO: Prices ended the week on a new closing high after heavy trading on the back of buying of construction stocks. The yen's trend against the dollar also helped the Nikkei index rise 187.48 to 31,685.78.

HONG KONG: The market surged to its third post-crash high of the week as local buying overcame institutional selling. The Hang Seng index gained 46.42 to 3,105.96.

SINGAPORE: Prices closed firm after bargain-hunters caused widespread gains in hectic trading ahead of the lunar new year. The Straits Times industrial index rose 15.09 to 1,143.43.

BOMBAY: Share prices

recovered on heavy speculative buying fuelled by rumours some Indian companies may conclude lucrative deals with a visiting French business mission. In textiles, Reliance Industries Ltd rose 7.5 pips to 138.

FRANKFURT: Recovered rumours spurred round the Frankfurt exchange, pushing the stock index sharply higher and hitting the whole market. The Real Time 30-share Dax index ended up 6.80 points or 0.5 per cent at 1,326.36.

ZURICH: Swiss share prices closed generally steady in fairly calm trading. The All-Share Swiss performance index was hardly moved at 959.2 points compared with 957.5 at the previous close.

NEW YORK: Wall Street stocks were higher in late morning trade although blue chips were off highs. The Dow was up seven at 2340 after rising to 2344.

Central banks intervene

Dollar surges to 5-month high, gold sinks

LONDON, Feb 3, (Reuters): The dollar surged to a five-month high today following buoyant US economic figures but a wave of central bank dollar sales braked the rally which threatens rising import bills for other nations.

Figures showing that, outside the farm sector, 408,000 Americans found jobs in January, way above market forecasts of less than 300,000, indicated a strong economy and brought the possibility of higher US interest rates to stop it overheating.

Pinch
High US interest rates, imposed to pinch inflation, have been luring money to dollar assets since the start of the year, worrying other nations for which a strong dollar means bigger import bills and inflation in their economies.

The dollar hit 1.8875 West German marks, almost two pence above Thursday's close, on Friday as investors bought dollars after the release of the US jobs figures.

Speculators bet that US interest rates would certainly not come down, even if they did not go higher.

Trying to tame the dollar, because of the inflationary threat around the globe, the US Federal Reserve Board led the central banks of West Germany, France, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy and Austria in selling the US currency to bring it back down.

Intervention
Since the new year the dollar has gained about five per cent in value on a powerful rally, largely because of the relatively high US interest rates.

"The Fed is not going to ease (interest rate) policy as a result of these figures," said a London bank economist after the job statistics from Washington.

So, at least for now, it was up to the central banks and their open market intervention against the dollar to try to stop it rising to problematic levels.

About an hour after the release of the jobs data they had got it back down to around 1.8770 marks and 129.25 yen (from

129.80) but speculative buying could not entirely be stopped and New York dealers reported that the Fed piled back into the market with a second round of selling.

Finance ministers from the Group of Seven industrial nations were meanwhile meeting in Washington for talks arranged some weeks ago, with the West Germans particularly worried about the dollar inflation risk.

But European currency dealers thought the G-7 — the United States, Japan, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada — might find it hard to say anything very effective.

"G-7 will delay any comments until the trading day in Europe is finished," said Peter Geis, treasurer at Irving Trust in Frankfurt. "But they could have quite an impact in New York."

Money has been pouring out of gold and other investments into dollars this year. Gold closed at a two-year low in London yesterday because of the strength of the dollar and today closed at \$388.75 an ounce.

In New York, US Treasury bond prices fell, while bill rates rose after the employment report reinforced expectations US interest rates will have to rise further, dealers said.

The benchmark 30-year bond fell to 101-12/32 from 101-29/32 to yield 8.87 per cent against 8.82 per cent.

Wall Street stocks opened lower with the Dow Jones industrial average down four points at 2,330.

Weaker US stocks pressured prices in London which had soared earlier. The FTSE index of 100 key shares remained sharply up 25.5 points at 2,068.9 points after the US opening but it was off a peak of 2,078.

Elsewhere in Europe, stocks were higher in France and West Germany. The Swiss market was steady, Italian shares were weak.

Earlier in Tokyo, shares ended the week at a new closing high in heavy business which concentrated on the construction sector. The Nikkei share index rose 187.48 points or 0.60 per cent to a new record close of 31,685.78.

In other Asian markets, Australian shares surged in morning trading, but fell back in the afternoon due to investor nervousness ahead of the G-7 meeting, brokers said. The All Ordinaries index ended the day up 0.8 points at 1,511.5.

Refreshed after a two-day correction, Hong Kong's bull market closed the Chinese Year of the Dragon by surging to its third post-crash high this week.

Local buying, fierce enough to overcome substantial institutional selling, sent the Hang Seng index past the 3,100 barrier to close 46.42 points higher at 3,105.96. Trading will resume next Thursday.

The dollar closed in Frankfurt at 1.8815 marks, up from yesterday's 1.8680 but down from the day's highs of 1.8875.

Frankfurt dealers said the central banks' intervention had been only partly successful and the dollar was headed higher, although forecasts were marked by caution over what, if anything, the G-7 leaders would say after their meeting.

G-7 leaders focus on Third World debt

WASHINGTON, Feb 3, (Reuters): Financial leaders of the big industrial democracies launched a new drive today to tackle the \$1.3-trillion Third World debt crisis as currency markets tested their resolve to cap a surging dollar.

Advent
Finance ministers and central bank chiefs of the Group of Seven (G-7) nations turned their attention to the plight of debtor nations after a working dinner yesterday dominated by problems caused by the high dollar and US budget deficit.

"I hope 1989 will see the advent of effective, original debt

solutions," French Finance Minister Pierre Bérégovoy said before joining all-day talks at the US Treasury.

The seven richest industrial democracies — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Canada and Italy — are seeking to build on a 1985 debt strategy pioneered by James Baker, then the US Treasury secretary.

That bought commercial banks time, but there is now an emerging consensus among the G-7 nations that the strategy must be improved if living conditions in debtor nations, especially in Latin America, are

not to slide further.

Bérégovoy told reporters new ideas would include proposals floated last year by French President Francois Mitterrand and former Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

The United States has reacted coolly in the past to both, but pressure has been mounting for a fresh initiative as Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela face new economic crises.

The finance leaders' talks were likely to be overshadowed by another attempt on world currency markets to drive the dollar higher following signs that the US economy is continuing to

grow strongly.

US employment data, issued just one hour before the group's talks began today, showed a far higher-than-expected rise in the number of new jobs created in January. This suggested to currency traders that US interest rates would stay high.

The dollar surged against the West German mark, triggering a bout of intervention by European central banks and the US Federal Reserve that appeared to halt an advance to the 1.90-mark ceiling traders believe the G-7 has set.

Finance ministers had billed their Washington meeting as a

"get-acquainted" session, with both US Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and his Japanese counterpart, Tatsu Murayama, relatively new in their jobs.

Brady came under pressure yesterday from Europe and Japan to show he was determined to cut the US budget deficit — projected to hit \$161.5 billion in the current financial year.

Some European nations argue that over-reliance on monetary policy in the United States, without support of a tight fiscal stance, has pushed US interest rates and the dollar up too high, forcing other nations to raise their rates.

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A new image for Sheena Easton

A thoroughly modern girl

By Alan Jackson

BRITISH showbusiness is awash with stars who have traded their rock appeal for the comfy world of variety shows, musicals and TV ads.

Was Cliff Richard really once seen as a threat to the morals of the nation's youth? Were the young Cilla Black or David Essex ever taken seriously as pop singers, or Toyah Wilcox and Adam Ant considered even remotely outrageous? Actually, yes.

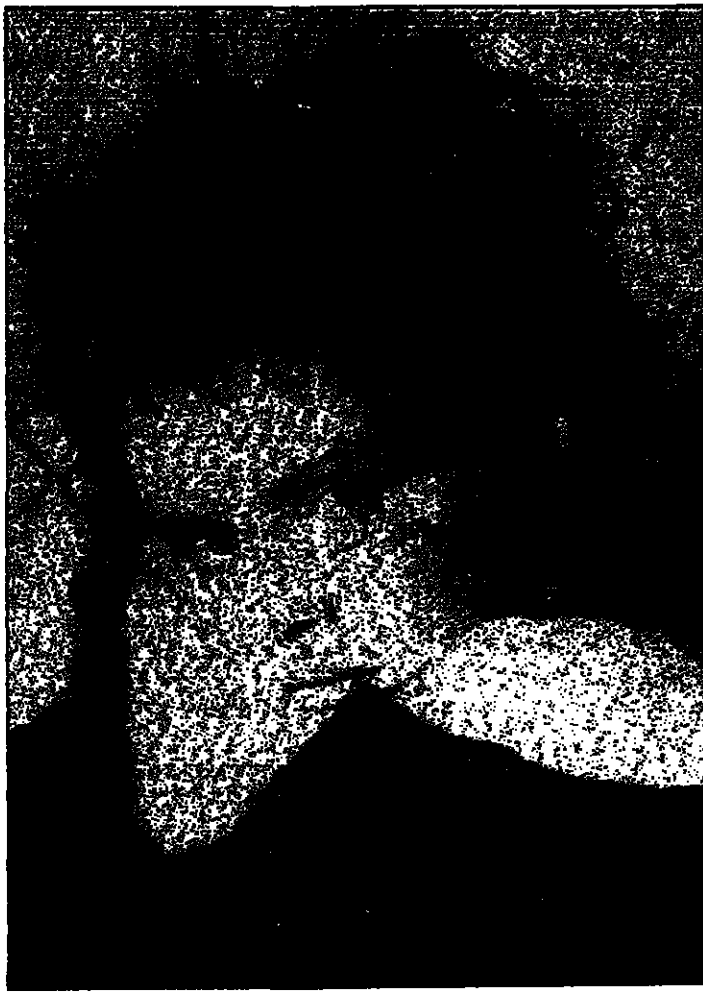
The instinct for survival in a fickle business is a strong one. And although such prudence runs contrary to the rock 'n' roll ethic, very few artists swim against the tide, sacrificing the lucrative pastures of the adult-oriented market in a bid for genuine pop credibility.

Gilt by association seems the key to success for the few who do. It took pairings with Morrissey and the Pet Shop Boys respectively to restore Sandie Shaw and Dusty Springfield to the charts, while the Tom Jones-Art of Noise collaboration gained extra impact through involving a cover of the Prince hit "Kiss".

And it is also Prince who has helped Sheena Easton pull off one of the most radical image reversals imaginable. Thrust to instant fame in 1980 by the BBC documentary "The Big Time", she seemed the archetypal malleable pop star, destined for the middle of the musical road when her brief run of British successes dried up.

Instead, she moved to the United States, where she won 1981's Grammy for Best New Artist, and set about attracting a younger, dancefloor following through work with top black producers.

"I never wanted to go on stage in a long sequined gown and do an hour's worth of ballads," she told me in Los Angeles recently, as she prepared for a brief promotional trip to Britain. "You get offered exorbitant amounts of money to do the kind of show where you go into the audience and say 'Hey, you guys are beautiful. Where are you from? Is this your honeymoon? It just wasn't what I wanted for myself musically'."



Sheena Easton: re-cast

The key factor in her personal reinvention was a first contact with Prince five years ago. Hearing she liked his work and was looking for material, he wrote the song "Sugar Walls" for her. A Top Ten hit in America in 1984, its innuendo was denounced as "pornographic" by moral crusader Tipper Gore, hence securing Easton a credibility rating no PR strategist could have dreamed of, and one totally out of synch with the suburban secretary-chic image created by "9 to 5" her debut hit.

Since then she and Prince have duetted on "U Got The Look" and recently began writing songs together. Their latest collaborations are "101" and "Cool Love", two startling tracks he has written and produced for Easton's almost uniformly excellent album, "The Lover In Me", due out in March.

The current rash of posters across London promoting her new single, the title track from the album, suggests that she is totally committed to burying her earlier incarnation.

They show the singer "posing my ass off, quite frankly—really giving it plenty" in black lingerie. "It's a strident, sexy song and I wouldn't be doing my job right if I came across as anything other than feisty and hot-blooded," she maintains. "I'm not in the least embarrassed or ashamed of it."

Those who find such pragmatism distressing from one who sang of the joys of housewifely subservience in "9 to 5" should have taken note of the refrain to Sheena Easton's very first single: "She is free to be what she wants to be. All she wants to be is a Modern Girl."

Record review

A milder version of Blondie

By David Sinclair

THERE is a fatal flaw at the heart of *Once More into the Beach*, a mildly eccentric double-album collection of old Blondie and Debbie Harry material, much of which has been subject to dramatic remixing and restructuring in a modern-sounding post-House vein.

Although Blondie was a band which enjoyed an impressive measure of support among the club and dancefloor constituency, the group's music was



Debbie Harry: re-mixed for the dance floor

nevertheless about as pure an expression of the three-minute pop song ethos as has yet been heard. Thus, to turn "Denis", "Heart of Glass", "Call Me", "Rapture" and "The Tide is High" into rambling, extended 12" mixes, their melodies groaning under the weight of repetitive percussion overlays, stuttering voice samples and burping electronic effects is to betray the very essence of those once lean, seductive songs.

The men responsible for this sequence of high-class travesties

are seasoned remix producers including Dancin' Danny D., Shep Pettibone and Coldcut. But in "Housing-up" such material, they have injected a crushing element of long-winded slackness into verses that were once paradigms of neat, spry elegance. The gleaming hooks of the choruses are invariably deferred until the trance-like quality which distinguishes a dancefloor mix is firmly established, and the once-sharp lines of the melodies have become irredeemably softened and blurred.

Those songs which escape the fate of emasculation by elongation are strictly second division in any case, and include material such as the original 12" version of Harry's only solo hit, "French Kissin' in the USA" and, for no obvious good reason, a French language version of "Sunday Girl".

The album demonstrates, albeit unwittingly, the different requirements in musical mood and timescale that separate the dancefloor habitue from the rest of us.

By Andrew Stern

CHICAGO, (Reuter): Sugar Blue jams the harmonica against his lips, straining to hit the gut-wrenching run of notes that mirror his Blues player's soul.

Backed by his band on the cramped stage of a nightclub packed with a mostly white audience, Sugar Blue — born James Whiting 38 years ago in Harlem — is carrying on a tradition that began in the deep south of his black forefathers.

Widely regarded as the roots of rock and roll, the Blues are described as black folk music, an aural history of black Americans from their slave quarters in the south to their migration to the ghettos of industrial cities in the north.

As sung by Muddy Waters, blind Lemon Jefferson, Robert Johnson, and now, Sugar Blue, the Blues is a simple musical format, consisting of three basic chords.

"It is the simplest music to duplicate, and the most difficult art in which to create," Sugar Blue says. "Because you've only got three (chord) changes... the only thing you've got going for you is your free-flowing sense of how to structure ideas."

"If you play 36 choruses, you

Blues music carries on

better have something to say," Chicago, destination of hundreds of thousands of Mississippi-born blacks earlier this century, has since become the adopted home of modern-day performers like Sugar Blue, Son Seals, Koko Taylor and dozens of others.

Sugar Blue learned at the feet of master harmonica player "Big Walter" Horton, a contemporary of legendary figures such as John Lee "Sonny Boy" Williamson, Howling Wolf and Muddy Waters.

"They didn't have just the music to show you," Blue says of the old-time players, a few of whom in their 80s are still playing clubs in the city.

"They were the only people who maintained the knowledge of what was going on, how people felt. They were the troubadours."

Big Walter, who died in 1981, spent much of his performing life in clubs that paid waitresses more than musicians.

After his mentor died, Sugar Blue left Chicago for France, a haven for many unappreciated American black artists.

But the image of Horton edging down nightclub aisles in a paper-mache devil's head, beg-

ging, haunted him and he later returned to continue his musical education.

While tourists now frequent the numerous Blues clubs here, anxious to hear the "Chicago Blues" played and sung by Sugar Blue and other players, the current atmosphere cannot begin to match the scene earlier in this century.

From the 1920s to the 1950s, Blues blared out of Chicago's southside tenements and nightclubs.

The Blues artists were sought out and recorded, but often paid paltry sums, their songs sometimes stolen and never copyrighted. Many succumbed to drink or worse.

Now only a few lucky artists get recorded and Chicago-based Alligator Records is one of the few companies willing to commit the Blues to vinyl.

In a ramshackle office littered with posters and cassettes, Alligator founder Bruce Iglauer recalled the first time he heard the Blues live, when he listened to Fred McDowell in Mississippi in 1966.

Sheriff captures top spot in USA

NEW YORK: "When I'm With You" by Sheriff jumped into the number one among best selling single pop records in the United States. The hit disc was in fourth spot a week ago.

Last week's top single, Don't Rush Me by Taylor Dayne, topped to 10th position on the Cash Box magazine chart.

Paula Abdul's Straight Up lived up to its title, leaping three notches from fifth to second. Def Leppard's Armageddon It slipped from second to third.

Two Hearts by Phil Collins topped from third place completely out of the top 10 list.

New to the top 10 list was Wild Thing by Tone Loc, up from 13th to 7th, Holding On by Steve Winwood, up from 11th to 9th.

Top Ten US
The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (4) When I'm With You — Sheriff (Capitol).
2. (5) Straight Up — Paula Abdul (A&M).
3. (2) Armageddon It — Def Leppard (Mercury-Polygram).
4. (6) Born To Be My Baby — Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).
5. (7) The Way You Love Me — Karyn White (Warner Brothers).
6. (8) When The Children Cry — White Lion (Atlantic).
7. (13) Wild Thing — Tone Loc (Delicious Vinyl).
8. (10) All This Time — Tiffany (MCA).
9. (11) Holding On — Steve Winwood (Virgin).
10. (1) Don't Rush Me — Taylor Dayne (Arista).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (3) Song Of The South — Alabama (RCA).
2. (6) What I'd Say — Earl Thomas Conley (RCA).
3. (4) It's Always Gonna Be, Someday — Holly Dunn (MTM).

4. (7) Burnin' A Hole In My Heart — Skip Ewing (MCA).

5. (9) I Sing Dixie — Dwight Yoakam (Warner Brothers-Reprise).

6. (10) Big Wheels In The Moonlight — Dan Seals (Capitol).

7. (1) Deeper Than The Holler — Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).

8. (12) Life As We Knew It — Kathy Mattea (Mercury).

9. (2) All The Reasons Why — Highway 101 (Warner Brothers).

10. (14) She Reminded Me Of You — Mickey Gilley (Airborne ABS).

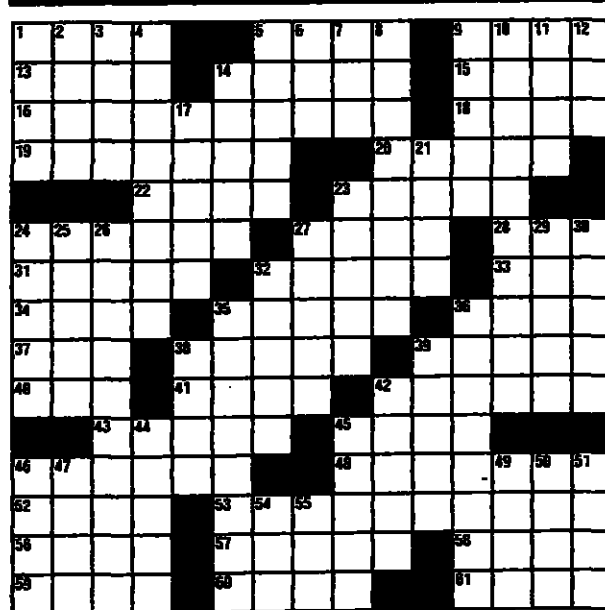
London: Gene Pitney's rerelease of Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart with British singer Marc Almond topped the British pop singles chart for the second week in a row.

The Living Years by Mike and the Mechanics stayed in second spot, followed by You Got It by the late Roy Orbison.

Top Ten UK
This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (1) Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart — Marc Almond and Gene Pitney (Parlophone).
2. (2) The Living Years — Mike and the Mechanics (WEA).
3. (5) You Got It — Roy Orbison (Virgin).
4. (6) Cuddly Toy — Roachford (CBS).
5. (7) She Drives Me Crazy — Fine Young Cannibals (London).
6. (-) Love Train — Holly Johnson (MCA).
7. (8) Buffalo Stance — Neneh Cherry (Circus).
8. (-) That's The Way Love Is — Ten City (Atlantic).
9. (3) Especially For You — Kylie Minogue and Jason Donovan (PWL).
10. (10) Baby I Love Your Way — Will to Power (Epic).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Sounds of surprise
 - 5 Promenade in ancient Greece
 - 9 In the distance
 - 13 Kind of review
 - 14 Demand
 - 15 Money in Modena
 - 16 Fabulous fur
 - 18 Provide the provender
 - 19 Rich yeast cake
 - 20 Swamp birds
 - 22 Military vehicle
 - 23 Scooped at
 - 24 Western Native American
 - 27 Tree trunk
 - 28 Fairy queen
 - 31 Idolize
 - 32 Merry-andrew
 - 33 Copenhagen coin
 - 34 Lots of money
 - 35 Heaven: Comb. form
 - 36 Mischief or Leopold
 - 37 Final
 - 38 Serpentine
 - 39 A Ford
 - 40 Grand Central: Abbr.
 - 41 American playwright
 - 42 Daughter of Cadmus
 - 43 Flies in flight
 - 45 Modern artist from Spain
 - 46 Story-teller
 - 48 Run
 - 52 Takes advantage of
 - 53 Bram Stoker subject
 - 56 Wings
- DOWN**
- 2 Black-footed albatross
 - 4 He rode with
 - 6 Modesty
 - 7 Grizzly's Alaskan cousin
 - 27 Halting device
 - 29 Whirling
 - 30 Uncle Mittie
 - 32 Encumbrances
 - 35 Shakes up
 - 36 Beaux
 - 38 Location
 - 39 Hunter of lampreys
 - 42 Flavorful
 - 44 Author of "Ghosts"
 - 45 Finds a solution for, with "our"
 - 46 Farouk's father
 - 47 Capri, e.g.
 - 49 Partner of aid
 - 50 River in Kenya
 - 51 Town on the Thames
 - 54 Southern Constellation
 - 55 Mme., in the USA

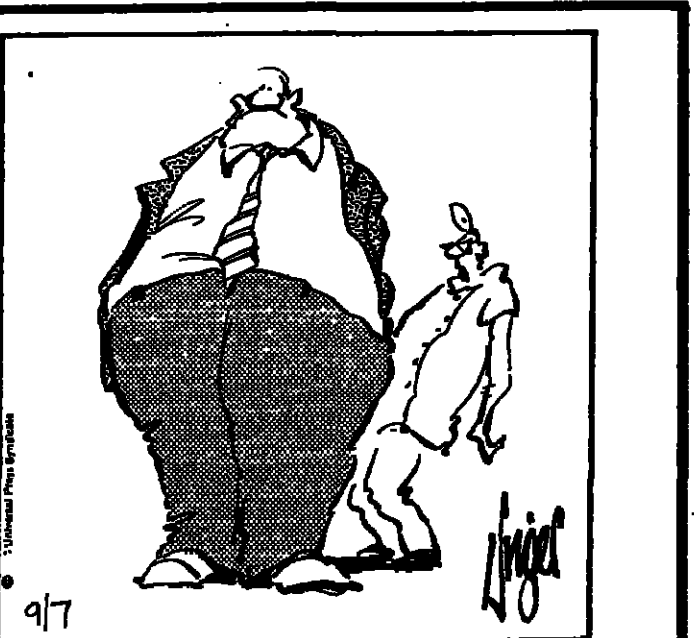
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ALSO HAIG ACTS
MOORE ECCE SOUP
POLAR AHAM TITO
SPEECHLESS ONTO
AUS TONSIL
ARABLE MADRI
CANOE GUNNYSACK
AVOW SATIE HORA
REALITIES LENIN
ELAND MODEST
SPIDER AEC
LINO DUMFOUNDED
OLAY UNIO SEINE
TONE SILO TRAIN
STER TRET SANDY

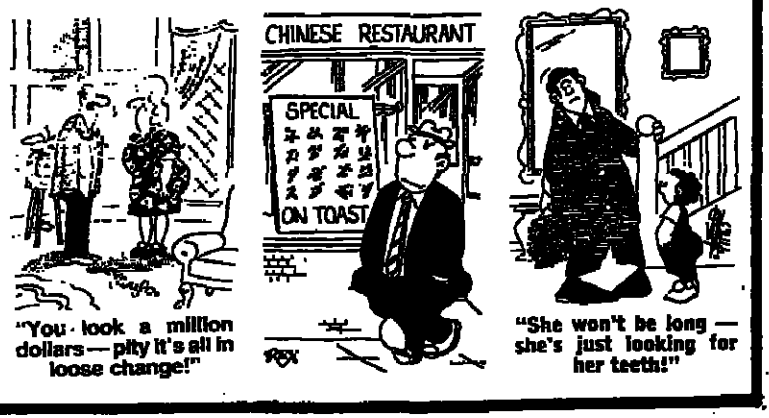
GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠J10762 ♥K83 ♦A3 ♣762
Your partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠J98 ♥10873 ♦Q654 ♣A9
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass 1 ♥ 1 ♠ 1 NT
? What action do you take?
- Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠KJ1072 ♥Void ♦A7 ♣KJ10984
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ 1 ♥ ?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠AKJ10884 ♥K ♦A1092 ♣K5
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?
- Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠AKJ10987 ♥K9 ♦6 ♣Q92
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass ?
What is your opening bid?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠AQ1093 ♥Q107642 ♦Void ♣A7
Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?



"No wonder you're having difficulty walking. You've got an armchair back here!"



"You look a million dollars—pity it's all in loose change!"

"She won't be long—she's just looking for her teeth!"

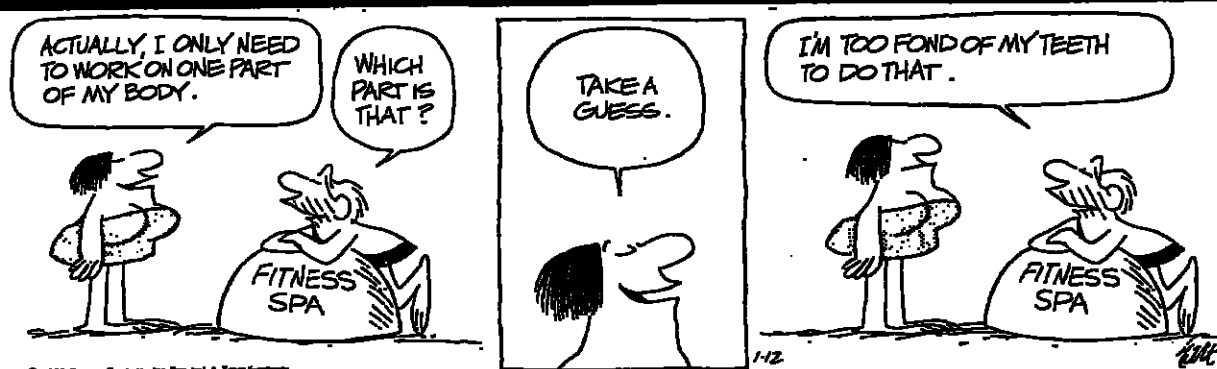
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Venus' more favorable influence will help you to deal with a family matter. You should make sure you do not quarrel with a good friend of yours. Avoid overstretching yourself financially. Be polite.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will be in good spirits and will be able to do a good deal of what you set out to do. You should do all you can to avoid playing with fire. Do not allow family problems to accumulate. Be magnanimous.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

Venus' better influence will help you to deal with a personal problem. You should avoid telling a stranger too much about your personal affairs. Try a little harder to curb your spending. Be more tolerant.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should stand up for yourself and stick to your principles too. Keep your reactions under a little better control. An old friend will be pleased to hear from you. Be patient.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

You should try not to take on any new commitments until you have dealt with some of those you have. One problem you have cannot be solved overnight but it can be made easier to live up with.



Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)

You will be better able to deal with a practical matter. Something important should not be neglected. Take special care when negotiating a tight corner. Be cordial.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

The situation is a little complicated but Venus' better influence will help you to deal with it. You will have something to be pleased about. Do not expect other always to play your tune. Be benevolent.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

You should avoid relying too much on others, but there is no reason why you should distrust all of them. You should ensure that a disagreement does not turn into a quarrel.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

You will have something to really pleased about, but you must not yet relax your efforts. Avoid making any promises that you do not feel able to keep. No harm in showing your sympathy for others. Be considerate.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

The more favorable planetary influences will help you to make up your mind. You will succeed somewhere where you did not really expect to. You should not allow yourself to be overcome by doubt. Be observant.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Venus' influence will help you to deal with a personal matter. You will be able to make a few changes for the better. Make sure you do not spend more than you can afford. Be selective.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

You will have a lot to be pleased about but nothing to be smug about. Try to show a little more sympathy towards a friend who is in some personal trouble. You would do well to spend a while tidying up. Be fair.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

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- ★ Customs Clearance
- ★ Packing-Forwarding
- ★ Air-Sea-Tracking

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GENERAL SERVICE

For all your shifting with transportation, painting, wall papering, carpet & villa cleaning. We are at your service, with skilled workers.
Contact Tel: 4748877/
4731004. Timings - 8.00 am - 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm - 8.00 pm. Al Mawassim Trdg.

WANTED Refrigeration mechanic

The applicant must have 10 years' experience.
Please write to: P. O. Box 1190, 13012, Safat, Kuwait

IBRAHIM

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TO LUZON, VISAYAS
AND MINDANAO

ABUGHOSH INT'L
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Real Estate
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world-wide.
Sea-Freight-Air
Fahadheel
(3912632-3926043)
Fahad Al Saleh
(2425976)

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Maternity Fashion
Special show on
clothes
Salmiya, Bafel Street, Sand
Al Homaidhi Complex
Tel: 5718672
Al Muthanna Complex,
Ground Floor No. 120
Entrance No. 6,
Tel: 2406542

Wanted a cook

Mecca Restaurant is in need of a cook who is capable of cooking Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Indian dishes. Must have transferable residence.
Tel: 3929239

VACANCY

Position available for enterprising Promoter with the following qualifications:

- 20-25 years of age
- Valid and transferable residence
- Female
- Driver's licence a plus
- Fluent in Arabic and English

Please send CV to:
C/o. Vacancy
P.O. Box 1779 Safat 13018 Safat Kuwait.



Oh, No!
This can't
be mine!

I should
have called
Alghanim...

No one does it better.
The biggest IATA
Freight agent in Kuwait.

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Sea-Freight-Air
Packing
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2406593

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Young energetic experienced male/female
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Telex Operator
with knowledge of computer operation for a reputed firm.
Please call 4733306

WANTED ENGINEER

With minimum 5 years experience in installation and maintenance of telecommunication equipment with Kuwaiti driving licence.
Contact: 2469818

ACCOMMODATION

Available

RAWDA, Area 1, Street 16, House 12 One single room for a family or 2/3 bachelors. Tele. Mr Ali, 4845261 ext. 325, 8 am-12.30 pm, 4.30-7 pm.

(AT6-45885-3)
NUGRA. Sharing accommodation for a couple or working lady. Tele. Mr Mehta, 2648794.
(AT5-45879-3)

For Rent

SALWA, Area 6. Deluxe flat in a new villa, CAC, with 3 bedrooms, hall, saloon, 2 bathrooms, kitchen including tele., water and electricity, preferably for a European family. Rent KD310. Tele. 5618727, 2-11 pm.
(AT5-45872-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

ITALIAN made dining room, table (off/white) with 10 chairs, buffet, mirror, beds, washing machine and office furniture in excellent condition. Tele. 3904381, evenings, 2452446 office.
(AT1-45909-3)

Required Immediately

1. A driver
With valid Kuwaiti private driving licence.
2. An air-conditioning Technician, preferred with a driving licence.
Call Tel. 4739550
8.00 am - 1.00 pm
3.00 to 7.00 pm

SALMIYA, Baghdad Street: one bedroom, CAC flat, including kitchen cabinets, household furniture for sale at reduced rates. Also fridge, gas cooker and dining table. Tele. 2510986, after 1.30 pm.
(AT6-45890-3)

Furniture

ONE sofa set and two beds for children, in good condition. Tele. 5720190, after 5.30 pm.
(AT6-45881-2)

Cars

AUDI Quattro '83 model, manual, red, with AC and '87 specification in excellent condition. KD4,000, negotiable. Cash. Tele. Mr Adil, 5511608.
(AT1-45902-3)

SAAB 900 Turbo 1982 model, manual, white, with AC and stereo in very good condition. KD650 to owner, KD372 to BMB Co., monthly KD53. Tele. Mohd Lufar, 2468741/42, 4743517, Res. 8.30 am - 8.30 pm.
(AT1-45906-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt '86 model, manual, white, with AC and stereo in very good condition. KD650 to owner, KD372 to BMB Co., monthly KD53. Tele. Mohd Lufar, 2468741/42, 4743517, Res. 8.30 am - 8.30 pm.
(AT1-45906-3)

MERCEDES 280S, 1979, brick red colour, fully automatic, in very good condition. KD1,000. Tele. 4878197, any time answer phone.
(AT6-AS-TM-3)

MITSUBISHI Colt 1982 model automatic in excellent condition. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tele. 5618432.
(AT1-45904-3)

MERCEDES 280, 1980, fully automatic, one owner, in good condition. KD1750. Tele. 2448564.
(AT5-45869-3)

BUICK LeSabre 1978, fully automatic, registered up to January 1990. With new gear box, radiator and overhauled engine. Tele. Mr Benjamin, 4843707, 2612319.
(AT6-45901-2)

HONDA Prelude, 1984, silver metallic, fully automatic with sunroof, 60,000 kms., in excellent condition. KD1,500. Tele. 4878197, any time answer phone.
(AT6-45900-3)

MITSUBISHI Cordia, 1983 model white, with two doors, AC and stereo, fully automatic in very good condition. KD650. Tele. 5723206, 9 am - 1 pm, 3-7 pm.
(AT1-5723206-3)

SITUATIONS

Vacant

MAID required temporarily to work immediately from 6 am - 5 pm, or to live-in. Tele. 5726903.
(AT5-45890-3)

MAID required to live-in, full time. Tele. 9021311.
(AT6-MC-TM-3)

MAID required immediately, Filipino, for a Brazilian family to live-in. Must have experience with children. Salary KD45. Tele. 3710269.
(AT6-45859-2)

MAID required for a small family to do all household duties, full time or part-time. Must be good with children. Accommodation will be provided. Tele. Mrs Norma, 2438011 ext 230, 9 am - 12.30 pm.
(AT1-45873-3)

MAID required for a small Pakistani family to live-in in Mangaf. Must speak English or Urdu. Tele. Mr Arshad, 3726542.
(AT1-45903-2)

MAID required immediately for a Goan family to look after a newborn baby and do housework to live-in. Tele. Mr Manuel 2410022.
(AT1-45907-2)

MAID required, Filipino, to live-in. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tele. Fula, 2421327, 9 am - 5 pm.
(AT5-45875-3)

Wanted

WELL - experienced lady secretary, available for 2 months only. Tele. 3922172.
(AT6-45887-2)

MAID, Sri Lankan, with 9 years experience in Kuwait in cleaning, cooking and childcare. seeks a suitable employment. Tele. 5651719.
(AT1-45911-3)

SERVICES

Transport

AVAILABLE for 4 employees to and from any destination preferably ministry timings. Tele. 5385094, after 1 pm.
(AT5-45855-3)

LOST

A BAG containing an Indian driving licence, some documents and passport No. R 218619 in the name of Gracian Fernandes, Indian. Finder please tele. Mr Gracian Fernandes, 5385401.
(AT5-45874-3)

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(AT6-45883-3)

WANTED

USED boat, 28ft upto 30-33 ft optimum) cruiser type with flybridge and cabin. Twin engine preferably straight inboards. Tele. Mr Mohan, 4749655.
(AT5-45876-3)

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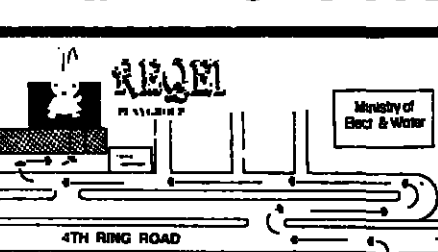
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8.30 am to 1 pm & 4 to 9 pm.

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Graduate of an industrial engineering college, with a minimum of five years' experience, and decent knowledge of computers and English. Applications with the CV and personal photos to be mailed to the following address:
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WANTED MECHANICS

For general repairs of heavy equipment. Minimum experience 5 years in Caterpillar. 25 - 35 years old. Transferable residence permit. For interview please call
Tel: 4811035

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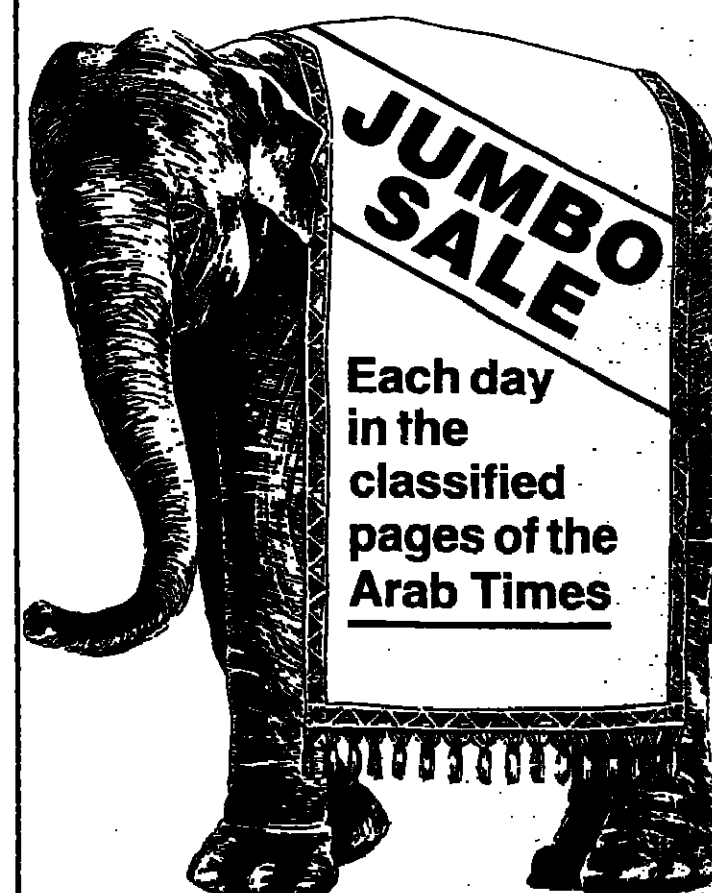
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in the
classified
pages of the
Arab Times

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

افغانستان سے سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد کیا ہوگا؟

افغانستان کے سابق صدر نجیب اللہ

افغانستان کے سابق صدر نجیب اللہ نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔



نیا دور



نیا دور

افغانستان کے سابق صدر نجیب اللہ نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔

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پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا

پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری

پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔



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چوہدری بزرگ کی فنی واپس چلے گئے

چوہدری بزرگ کی فنی واپس چلے گئے

چوہدری بزرگ کی فنی واپس چلے گئے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔

امریکی عوام دہشت گردی کے خلاف سخت اقدامات کے حامی ہیں

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امریکی عوام دہشت گردی کے خلاف سخت اقدامات کے حامی ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔

کیپیچیا کے مسئلہ پر حاضری کر دیوں کا اجلاس بیجنگ میں ہو گا

کیپیچیا کے مسئلہ پر حاضری کر دیوں کا اجلاس بیجنگ میں ہو گا

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پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا

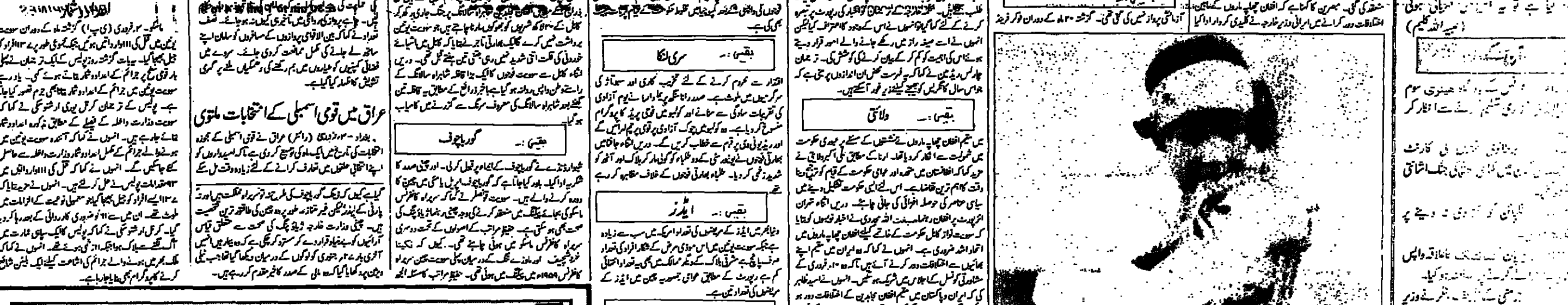
پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری

پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔

پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا

پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری

پاکستان کے وزیر خارجہ ایچ ایم قمری نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ پاکستان نے آئینی ترمیم کے وقت کی باتوں کو نظر انداز کر دیا۔



مرج بیدی ۲۰ مارچ ۱۹۹۵ء مرج بیدی نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔	مرج بیدی ۲۰ مارچ ۱۹۹۵ء مرج بیدی نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔	مرج بیدی ۲۰ مارچ ۱۹۹۵ء مرج بیدی نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔	مرج بیدی ۲۰ مارچ ۱۹۹۵ء مرج بیدی نے کہا کہ سوویت فوج کے انخلا کے بعد افغانستان میں ایک نیا دور شروع ہوگا۔
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Rain hits first day of Test in New Zealand

DUNEDIN, New Zealand, Feb 3, (Reuters): Play was rained out without a ball being bowled on the first day of the first Pakistan-New Zealand cricket Test at the Carisbrook Ground in Dunedin today.

Light rain fell throughout the day and umpires Steve Dunne and Steve Woodward abandoned play shortly before the scheduled tea interval.

The Otago province, of which Dunedin is the main town, had been experiencing its worst drought in this century but more rain is forecast for tomorrow.

Earlier in the morning Pakistan manager Intikhab Alam named the Pakistan 12 which included 16-year-old pace bowler Aaqib Javed.

If Aaqib is included in the final 11 he will be the second youngest player to play Test cricket after Mushtaq Mohammad, also of Pakistan.

Provided
Mushtaq was 15 years and 124 days old when he made his debut against the West Indies in 1958. Aaqib was 16 years and 182 days old today. If the teenager plays, Pakistan will have provided the five youngest players to have played Test cricket.

Teams: Pakistan: Rizwan-uz-Zaman, Shoaib Mohammed, Asim Malik, Javed Miandad, Salim Malik, Mudassar Nazar, Imran Khan (captain), Salim Yousuf, Abdul Qadir, Aaqib Javed, Salim Jaffer, Rameez Raja.

New Zealand: John Wright (captain), Robert Vance, Andrew Jones, Martin Crowe, Dipak Patel, Jeff Crowe, Richard Hadlee, Ian Smith, John Bracewell, Ian Smith, Ewen Chatfield, Willie Watson.

Knicks win 16th straight home game

NEW YORK, Feb 3, (AP): The New York Knicks again performed their magic act at Madison Square Garden, where even the NBA's top teams tend to disappear.

"We were so pumped up, we were flying," Gerald Wilkins said after scoring 21 points as the Knicks beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 125-109 last night.

The Knicks led the entire way in the meeting of Eastern Conference Division leaders. They won their 16th straight home game and are 19-1 this season at the Garden.

The Central Division-leading Cavaliers are 32-10, the best record in the League. But they never got going against New York, 29-16 and in first place in the Atlantic Division.

"We're a good team and they're a good team. And when you play a team that good, you've got to play hard. They just played a lot harder than we did," Cleveland's Ron Harper said.

In other games, Chicago beat Sacramento 109-98, Seattle downed Miami 100-93, Denver defeated Atlanta 112-103 and Golden State stopped New Jersey 127-113.

Trent Tucker broke his own team record for 3-point baskets, helping the Knicks win. His 70th 3-point shot came during a 13-2 burst that closed the first half and put New York ahead 65-50.

Patrick Ewing added 21 points and Charles Oakley had 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Knicks, who have won two of three games against Cleveland.

Mike Sanders scored 30 points and Harper had 23 for the Cavaliers.

Bulls 109, Kings 98
Michael Jordan scored 40 points and rallied Chicago over Sacramento.

Jordan, held to nine points in the first half, scored 15 during a 22-7 spree in the third quarter as the Bulls overcame a 55-46 deficit.

JONES HAMMERS WEST INDIES FOR UNBEATEN 131

Australia take charge of fifth Test

ADELAIDE, Feb 3, (Reuters): Dean Jones, with his fourth Test century, put on 208 with captain Allan Border for the fourth wicket today to help Australia take a firm grip of the fifth and final Test against West Indies.

At the close of the opening day Australia were 283 for three with Jones unbeaten on 131 and Border 61 not out.

Jones, left out for the first two Tests, was in commanding form from his first ball against a ragged West Indies attack which conceded 28 no balls.

Reduce
He steadied the innings after Curtly Ambrose had removed David Boon and Geoff Marsh in quick succession shortly before lunch to reduce the Australians, 3-1 down in the series, to 75 for three.

Jones, particularly strong square of the wicket, hit 12 fours in a chanceless 270-minute innings on a good batting strip.

In contrast, Border, who made 75 in his side's fourth Test victory, only rarely pierced the field.

again compensating for difficulties with his timing with gritty concentration.

West Indies, whose four pace bowlers were plagued by problems with their run-ups, will be fined after completing only 81 of the required 90 overs.

Australia were in immediate trouble after Border had won the toss and decided to bat, Mark Taylor being run out for three in the fourth over of the day.

The left-handed opener flicked Patrick Patterson to square leg and as he ambled through for his second run he was caught short of the crease by a rasping return from Courtney Walsh.

David Boon carried on where he left off in the fourth Test, scoring the bulk of the runs in a 57-run partnership with Geoff Marsh before he fell victim to a superb slip catch by Richie Richardson.

Fending at a ball from Ambrose, Boon saw Richardson dive to his left to take the edge chance with both hands. Boon,



Dean Jones who hit 149 in Sydney, scored 34 including five boundaries.

Eleven runs later Marsh, on 21, also fell victim to Ambrose, giving the lanky paceman his

24th wicket of the series. He edged a rising delivery straight to wicketkeeper Jeff Dujon.

With the innings tottering, Border faced a familiar scene on his arrival at the wicket to join Jones.

But Jones was already hitting the ball sweetly around the picturesque Adelaide ground and he proceeded to take advantage of a strange lack of fire from the West Indies attack.

Ambrose and Patterson both contributed 10 no balls, although many more no-balls were scored off by the batsmen and did not enter the extras column.

Jones reached his half century off 84 balls. His second 50 took just 67 balls as he repeatedly hit with power and grace through the West Indies cordon.

Since hitting 102 against Sri Lanka in the final Test of last season Jones has had a miserable year, averaging just 7.3 in the three-Test series in Pakistan.

Replaced as captain of Victoria by Simon O'Donnell, Jones rebuilt his confidence during the

one-day World Series Cup and was reinstated for the Third Test in Melbourne.

Border will not count his 36th Test 50 among his best. He failed to take advantage of Viv Richards' long spell of gentle off-spin, constantly striking the ball directly at the fielders while Jones picked the gaps with ease.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings:
G. Marsh c Dujon, b Ambrose 21
M. Taylor run out 3
D. Boon c Richardson b Ambrose 34
D. Jones not out 131
A. Border not out 61
Extras (lb-5 sb-22) 61
Total (for three wickets) 283

Fall of wickets: 1-72-64-3-75
To bat: S. Waugh, I. Healy, T. May, M. Hughes, M. Whitney, T. Hobbs.

Bowling: Marshall 11-1-26-0 (7ab), Patterson 17-1-68-0 (10ab), Ambrose 19-3-66-2 (10ab), Walsh 15-2-57-0 (1ab), Hooper 3-0-14-0, Richards 16-1-47-0.

West Indies — V. Richards (captain), G. Greenidge, D. Haynes, C. Hooper, R. Richardson, G. Logie, J. Dujon, M. Marshall, C. Ambrose, C. Walsh, P. Patterson.

Evert and Sabatini crash out of Open

TOKYO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Chris Evert and Gabriela Sabatini, the second and third seeds respectively, were toppled in the quarterfinals of the Pan-Pacific Women's Open indoor tennis tournament today.

Evert was ousted 6-2-5-7-6-4 by fellow-American and seventh seed Lori McNeil while Argentine Sabatini lost 6-2 6-2 to eighth-seeded American Mary Jo Fernandez.

Blamed
By contrast, top seed Martina Navratilova thrashed sixth-seeded West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch 6-2 6-2. Evert, 34, blamed the extremely fast artificial carpet surface for her defeat. She said it suited McNeil's serve-and-volley game but not her own baseline style.

"This is the fastest court I have ever played on in my life," Evert said. "If this had been a medium speed court I would have won."

Sabatini suffered from lapses in concentration — "I was thinking a little negatively," she said — and was outpaced by 17-year-old Fernandez during their baseline battle.

Fernandez said the carpet surface suited her better than Sabatini. "The balls bounce at waist level where I like hitting them."

Navratilova attributed her success to her powerful second serve.

"I am able to serve and volley from my second serve because I am hitting the ball harder and with more spin," she said.

The other semifinalist is American Zina Garrison, the fifth seed, who beat compatriot Molly van Nostrand 6-1 6-0 in just 56 minutes. Garrison served faster, was quicker around the court and hit her groundstrokes with more aggression than Van Nostrand.

Navratilova said yesterday she planned to play in the 1992 Olympic Games shortly before her 36th birthday.

"I am definitely planning on playing (the 1992 Olympics) in Barcelona," Navratilova said.

Tennis was brought back into the Olympics in Seoul last year, after a 64-year absence, and Navratilova was the only one of the world's top five women not to play.

She apparently felt the Games did not fit into her schedule but later told her regular doubles partner Pam Shriver she regretted her decision.

Dash

The Czechoslovak-born American, now 32, said she still felt very fit.

"If I had to run a 60-yard dash now I would be as fast as I ever was," said Navratilova. "In the off-weeks I work out very hard. I

work on my quickness and endurance."

But she admitted that she was slower than she used to be in rushing to the net for volleys.

"It has nothing to do with physical fitness. It is mental. I have been a little bit deliberative," she said.

Navratilova, winner of 17 Grand Slam titles, said it was difficult to maintain motivation in the early rounds of tournaments.

"You have to be really eager on court and that comes a lot easier when you are 20 than 30," she said.

Last year Navratilova relinquished the world number one spot to West German Steffi Graf and last week a quarterfinal defeat by Czechoslovak Helena Sukova meant she failed to reach the semifinals of the Australian Open for the first time in 10 attempts.

Trimmer Tyson has new trainer

LAS VEGAS, Feb 3, (Reuters): Heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson revealed a trimmer body and a new trainer on Wednesday in a training session for his title fight this month against Briton Frank Bruno.

Tyson, who split from long-time trainer Kevin Rooney a few months ago, is being worked by Jay Bright, a boyhood friend and fellow disciple of Tyson mentor Cus D'Amato.

Tyson said Bright, an aspiring actor who never fought as a professional, will be in his corner when the champion defends his title in a scheduled 12-round bout here on Feb 25.

"He makes me more comfortable. We grew up together," said Tyson.

D'Amato, who died several years ago, took Tyson and Bright into his home when they had problems as teenagers. Tyson was a juvenile delinquent and Bright was orphaned after his father, mother and brother died not long apart.

After Tyson's workout, Bright said Tyson still needed some work but could "beat Bruno right now."

Tyson sparred eight often desultory rounds on Wednesday.

He appeared to have shed much of the fat he had gained in his layoff since his last fight when he knocked out Michael Spinks in just 91 seconds last June.

The 22-year-old undisputed champion seemed, however, to be thicker through the thighs than ever. Tyson said he weighed about 220 pounds (100 kg), down from about 250 pounds (113 kg) that he weighed a few months ago.

Bright should be able to help Tyson shed weight. Bright, 30, said he weighed 389 pounds (176 kg) as a teenager and lost 144 pounds (65 kg).

Karpov triumphs

SEATTLE, Feb 3, (AP): Iceland's Johann Hjartarson resigned to the Soviet Union's Anatoly Karpov after the 32nd move of the third game of the World Chess Championship quarterfinals, giving Karpov a nearly unbeatable lead in the six-game match.

With the victory, Karpov leads with 2.5 points to 0.5 for Hjartarson.

A loss by Hjartarson in the next game would bring the match to an end, said chessmaster John Donaldson of Seattle. He said that for Hjartarson to keep the match alive, he would have to score 1.5 points in the next two games.

GOLF

Pate, Brooks and Savers share lead

PACIFIC PALISADES, Calif., Feb 3, (Reuters): Steve Pate, Mark Brooks and Gene Savers fired four-under-par 67s in cold and windy conditions yesterday to share the first round lead of the \$1 million Los Angeles Open golf tournament.

Sandy Lyle of Britain headed a group of eight players tied at three-under 68 on the Riviera Country Club course. The others were Larry Mize, Mark Calcavecchia, Howard Twitty, Phil Blackmar, Jay Hass, Donnie Hammond and Mike Reid.

Pate, who had six birdies and two bogeys, said his round was "the lowest I've ever had here."

Pate explained that he has played Riviera "more times than I can remember," especially during his college days at nearby UCLA (University of California at Los Angeles).

Brooks had five birdies and just one bogey for his share of the lead.

"It wasn't a perfect round but I hit it close a few times to make some birdies and never was in serious trouble," Brooks said.

Savers posted seven birdies and three bogeys, playing in the late afternoon when the wind had picked up considerably.

"The course might have been two shots harder in the afternoon," he said. Pate and Brooks both played in the morning.

Defending champion Chip Beck was three strokes off the pace after a one-under-par 70.

England and Scotland face moment of truth

LONDON, Feb 3, (Reuters): Genuine revival or false dawn?

The moment of truth will come for England and Scotland tomorrow when they meet at Twickenham in the second round of the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship.

Both sides recorded impressive victories in their last international outings after disappointing performances in the 1988 championship.

England for once fulfilled their brave promises of running rugby by defeating Australia 28-19 a month ago while Scotland opened their Five Nations campaign two weeks ago by thrashing joint 1988 champions Wales 23-7.

Few England sides can have started a Five Nations championship with such optimism, epitomised in their decision yesterday to scrap their scheduled afternoon training session.

Need

"We felt we had covered everything very well in the morning and did not feel there was any need for a second session," skipper Will Carling explained.

Carling said yesterday morning's session had concentrated on speed and continuity.

"What we want to do is play dynamic rugby and everything is geared towards that. That means doing things at speed."

Chris Oti and Rory Underwood must be two of the best wings in the championship and we want to use them more and more."

Carling, who has just turned 23, has been selected as captain with the 1991 World Cup in mind.

His task has been to help introduce more expansive tactics and after yesterday's training he outlined the New England approach.

Wales take on Ireland

CARDIFF, Feb 3, (Reuters): Wales, beaten five times in their last six internationals, will be under immense pressure when they meet Ireland at Cardiff Arms Park tomorrow in the second round of the Five Nations Rugby Union championship.

"There's always a great deal of pressure on us but there's more of it now," coach John Ryan admitted. "The longer we go without a win the greater it will get."

"We have to produce a result as soon as possible but we won't beat Ireland unless we play better than we did against Scotland."

Wales were badly let down by their forwards in their 23-7 defeat by Scotland in the first round two weeks ago and scrumhalf Jonathan Griffiths had a nightmare match.

Griffiths had flyhalf Bledny Bowen leaping like a soccer goalkeeper or reaching around his ankles for the ball with a series

"England are not playing this type of game to be popular with the crowd," Carling said. "We believe it is the most effective way to play rugby — far more effective than simply hoisting a ball high or plundering around the base of the scrum."

"We feel we have the right team to exploit this style of play ... if you have players with the vision to see the benefit of the counter-attack that can be lethal."

The key to tomorrow's match could lie in the respective performances of the two backrows.

Scotland captain Finlay Calder spearheaded a lively and thoroughly effective trio against Wales while England have possibly the fastest forward in the championship in outside flanker Andy Robinson.

The Scotland pack has been badly affected by the defection yesterday of tighthead prop Iain Milne because of an injured left ankle.

Coch Ian McGeechan said: "Iain has been the cornerstone of our pack and his absence means losing a lot of valuable experience."

Milne's replacement, London Scottish player Paul Burnell, said: "I'm sorry for Iain but it's great to be winning my first cap."

Teams:
England — Jon Webb; Rory Underwood, Will Carling (captain), Simon Halliday, Chris Oti; Rob Andrew, Dewi Morris; Dean Richards, Mike Teague, Wade Dooley, Paul Ackford, Andy Robinson, Paul Rendall, Brian Moore, Jeff Probyn.

Scotland — Peter Dods; Keith Robertson, Scott Hastings, Sean Lineen, Iwan Tukalo; Craig Chalmers, Gary Armstrong; Derek White, John Jeffrey, Chris Gray, Damian Cronin, Finlay Calder (captain), David Sole, Kenny Milne, Paul Burnell.

of misdirected passes.

Wales have plenty of talent in their back division and Evans and Cambridge University's Mike Hall should give the Irish defence plenty of worrying moments if they get an adequate supply of ball.

Teams:
Wales — Paul Thorburn (captain); Ieuan Evans, John Devereux, Nigel Davies, Mike Hall; Bledny Bowen, Robert Jones; Mark Jones, Roland Phillips, Kevin Moseley, Phil Davies, David Bryant, Mike Griffiths, Ian Watkins, Laurence Delaney.

Ireland — Fergus Dunlea; Michael Kiernan, David Irwin, Brendan Mullin, Keith Crossan; Paul Dean, Fergus Aherne; Noel Mannion, Pat O'Hara, Donal Lenihan, Willie Anderson, Philip Matthews (captain), Tom Clancy, Steve Smith, Jimmy McCoy.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Golden Boot

MONTE CARLO, Feb 3, (Reuters): Turkish striker Tanju Colak was presented with the annual Golden Boot trophy marking the top European goalscorer of the year at a special gala ceremony on Wednesday.

World Cup

ROME, Feb 3, (Reuters): Soccer fans have bought more than one quarter of the tickets available in Italy for the 1990 World Cup in the first two days of sales, organisers said yesterday.

Cup qualifier

LISBON, Feb 3, (Reuters): Portugal yesterday showed faith in the side who beat Greece in a recent friendly by naming a virtually unchanged squad for a vital World Cup soccer qualifier against Belgium on Feb 15.

1998 finals

ZURICH, Feb 3, (Reuters): France bid officially on Wednesday to host the 1998 World Cup soccer finals when French Soccer Federation chief Jean Fournet-Fayard handed the application to FIFA general secretary Sepp Blatter.

Italian soccer

ROME, Feb 3, (Reuters): Results of first-leg matches in the semifinals of the Italian Cup on Wednesday:

Atlanta 2 Sampdoria 2

Pisa 0 Napoli 2

W.German boxer

BERLIN, Feb 3, (AP): Graciano Rocchigiani of West Germany will defend his International Boxing Federation super middleweight title against French challenger Pierre-Frank Winterstein on April 28 in West Berlin.

Rocchigiani's manager Wilfried Sauerland said yesterday.

Chess match

ANTWERP, Belgium, Feb 3, (AP): Hungarian grandmaster Lajos Portisch and Jan Timman of the Netherlands agreed on a draw after 104 moves in the resumption of the adjourned first game of their World Chess Championship candidates quarter-final yesterday.

Carl Lewis

LOS ANGELES, Feb 3, (AP): Six-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis claimed on Wednesday that steroid use by women in track and field has been on the rise and questioned the ethics of American track and field performers.

Jeff Fenech

SYDNEY, Australia, Feb 3, (AP): World Boxing Council featherweight boxing champion Jeff Fenech of Australia will defend his title against Mexican Marcos Villanueva at the National Tennis Centre in Melbourne on April 1, promoter Bill Morley confirmed today.

New car

MODENA, Italy, Feb 3, (Reuters): Ferrari on Wednesday unveiled the new normally-aspirated Formula One car they hope will bring them their first drivers' world championship for 10 years.

Record entry

PARIS, Feb 3, (Reuters): A record 40 drivers have entered the 1989 Formula One world championship, the International Motor Sport Federation said on Wednesday.

Fendick triumphs

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb 3, (AP): Top-seeded Patty Fendick of the United States trounced Sweden Maria Lindstrom 6-2, 6-0 today to advance to the semifinals of the \$75,000 Nutri-metics International women's tennis tournament.

Randy Barnes

ST ALBANS, West Virginia, Feb 3, (AP): Randy Barnes says his recent world-record indoor toss in the shot put came at a time when he is less than peak condition. "I cannot wait to get a few weeks off from competition so I can train," Barnes, an Olympic silver medalist, said.

Dutch fans

AMSTERDAM, Feb 3, (Reuters): Dutch football fans plan to boycott a new identity pass scheme aimed at curbing hooliganism at matches, a spokesman for the Dutch Soccer Supporters Federation said yesterday.

Bridge tourney

A NEW bridge tournament, sponsored by West Minister System 17, will start at the Regency Hotel from Feb 19.

The West Minister Bridge Tournament will be held every Sunday and will last four months. However, only the best nine scores will count towards the final standings.

Prizes will be awarded to the first 10 players. The first game is on Sunday, Feb 19, at 8.00 pm.

WAZZAN FINISHES IN SECOND PLACE

Falah wins Kuwait local rally

By Gail Seery

EID FALAH Al Farzan and Sadeq Ashkanani took their Zayan-sponsored Range Rover to a three-minute and 34-second victory over Tareq Al Wazzan in yesterday's Kuwait local rally.

Wazzan and his usual navigator Khaled Khalifa were driving a Marlboro Opel Manta 400, which not only lacked the advantage of a 4wd, but also posed a series of problems for the team.

While Falah and Ashkanani encountered no problems and were driving with a new and more powerful engine, Wazzan and Khalifa encountered first two punctures, and then a broken drive shaft, which left them a full minute behind Falah at the end of the first leg of the rally.

However, true disaster struck when the car stopped at the entry to paraferrme, and eventually had to be pushed started. The pair were late into paraferrme, and incurred a three-minute penalty which knocked them back into an impossible position.

Third place was taken by Ali Al Birami and Mohammed Al Zaid in the Daihatsu Charade, though it should have been Ahmed Al Helal and Fahad Al Rashed who took the position; they rolled their Rothmans Toyota Corolla on the last stage.

Neither man was hurt, but the car was badly damaged, proving yet again how safe a sport desert rallying actually is.

Ahmed Al Mulla took a competent fourth place, in the Nissan 240RS, and as usual, Nasser Al Moussalem was right behind him in his Nissan Silvia. Once again this pair effectively kept Tareq Al Alyan out of the top five, and he and his new co-driver Isabel Speriano came home in sixth place.

Kuwait's only ladies' team, Dominique Bondi and Sophie Skouratko, sponsored by Lacoste, drove to a splendid eighth place in a comparatively low-powered Lada Niva. This result shows that they have a great deal of potential as a rally team.

Hossam Al Sayafe was continually told that his Range Rover was not fit to continue the rally; he was determined that he was going to finish, "even if I have to hold the engine in my hand while I drive," and earned himself ninth place — not a position he is likely to be content with under normal circumstances, but one which showed an unusual degree of commitment and determination, in the conditions of yesterday's rally. When Sayafe was not in the car driving, he was underneath working on it.

Realistic

The rally had been expected to be a tough fight between a number of cars, now that Mohammed Al Hussein was back in his Toyota Celica, and former Kuwait champion Ahmed Al Zafiri was back in a realistic car with Winston as a sponsor.

Sadly, Hussein encountered gear problems, and Zafiri blew his engine on stage 1.



Falah (right) and Ashkanani: easy win

Unfortunately this type of disaster is very much a part of rallying, but at least Zafiri has a new car on its way for the International, and sooner or later his bad luck must end. It really is tragic that this accomplished driver should continually be kept away from top positions by car problems.

"It was a good rally," Falah told the Arab Times. "The car was fine — the times we set prove that. Once Tareq had his time penalty I knew I could relax a little."

"This time the car was very fast, and Eid drove very well," said Sadeq Ashkanani. "We are leading the drivers", and co-drivers' championships at the moment, but there are still two rallies to go. We are preparing a stronger car for the International."



Falah on his way to victory.



Wazzan (right) and Khalifa: faced problems

As always, the unsung heroes of the day were the organising committee and their team of marshalls, who deserve special praise for having endured the appallingly cold desert conditions yesterday. But the committee must speed up their results procedure before the International rally. Two hours is too long a wait between the first car finishing the stage and the first results of the day being posted.

Arab Times has no axe to grind in making this statement, only a desire to see a successful International, which will bring credit to the club — credit which most other aspects of the committee's work thoroughly deserve.

Results

1. Eid Falah/Ashkanani — Range Rover — 1.03.47



Zafiri: blew his engine



Birami (right) and Zaid: finished 3rd



Mulla (right) and Mousa: fourth

2. Al Wazzan/Khalifa — Opel Manta — 1.07.21
3. Al Birami/Al Zaid — Charade — 1.10.23
4. Al Mulla/Mousa — Nissan 240RS — 1.12.24
5. Moussalem/Ali — Datsun Silvia — 1.12.51
6. Alyan/Speriano — Rocky — 1.13.11
7. Al Nasser/Al Zaid — Starion — 1.16.34
8. Bondi/Skouratko — Lada Niva — 1.22.47
9. Sayafe/Quattineh — Range Rover — 1.24.52
10. Jarrar/Mansur — Corolla — 1.26.15



Alyan: couldn't get into the top five (Photos by Emad Al Bourfi)

UAE edge Kuwait in Cup qualifier

SHARJAH, UAE, Feb 3, (Agencies): Kuwait's chances of qualifying for the next round of the World Cup qualifiers practically vanished when the visitors suffered a 1-0 defeat against the United Arab Emirates.

Kuwait, who beat UAE 3-2 in their home match, were never in the game and seemed to play without a plan from the start.

The only goal of the match came in the second half when UAE's Adel Al Tulyani gave the Kuwaiti goalkeeper no chance to make a save.

Although UAE have four points against Kuwait's six, they have a game against Pakistan in hand. UAE also has a better goal average.

Kuwait still has a chance to qualify — if Pakistan beat UAE or hold them to a draw. But the

chances of Pakistan achieving this result are practically nil, especially after their 5-0 thrashing by UAE in the first leg.

In Baghdad, four goals from Iraq striker Ahmed Radhi sent Jordan tumbling to defeat today in their World Cup qualifying game for West Asia Group One.

Jordan, outplayed throughout the game, were lucky not to concede at least two more goals. Keeper Milad Abbas saved a shot from Natiq Hashem in the 15th minute and Ghanim Uriyeh hit the bar eight minutes later.

Grasp

Radhi's first goal came in the 26th minute when Abbas failed to grasp the ball cleanly. The keeper seemed not to notice his second goal in the 43rd minute until it was safely in the net.

The former Iraqi youth star scored his third goal in the 67th minute. In the 80th minute he shot over the heads of the defensive wall and into the net off the crossbar.

All attempts by the Jordanians to reduce the deficit were repulsed to give a final scoreline of 4-0. Radhi began his international career in 1982 at the age of 18 when Iraq beat Jordan 7-1. He won a place in the triumphant Asian Games team that year.

In 1983 he led the Iraqi youth team to victory in the Palestine Cup in Morocco, slamming two hat-tricks in the process.

And in Doha, Qatar, two goals by Mahmoud Soufi steered Qatar to a 3-0 (1-0) win today against visiting Oman and boosted their hopes of reaching the 1990 World Cup finals.

The tactically superior Qatar side dominated from the start, though Jumaa Salem missed a goal chance in the 2nd minute with an over-hasty shot.

Hassan Johar opened the scoring in the 32nd off a pass by Salem, slipping the ball past Omani back Salem Mansour and keeper Yousef Obeid.

Despite a fierce wind that hampered their high ball playing style, Qatar's midfielders kept control with accurate passing and neat interception.

Rebounded

Johar also assisted with Qatar's second goal, when his shot rebounded off keeper Amr Salem, substituting for Obeid after the interval.

The ball rolled in front of Soufi, who prodded it into the empty goal for a 2-0 lead in the 67th.

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McKinney

VAIL, Colorado, Feb 3, (AP): Tamara McKinney gave the United States the first gold medal awarded at the World Alpine Ski Championships, recording a respectable third-place finish in the downhill yesterday to win the women's combined title.

McKinney, who had been second in Sunday's combined slalom behind Swiss superstar Vreni Schneider, overtook Schneider.

Al Ali defeats Rashid

AMMAN, Jordan, Feb 3, (AP): Jordanian No. 1 Hami Al Ali took a straight-sets victory over Kuwait's Khalid Rashid today to save a 1-1 tie in the first day of Davis Cup tennis play.

The 6-4, 6-2, 7-6 (7-2) victory by the 24-year-old former University of Florida player followed a 6-2, 7-5, 6-1 triumph for Kuwait captain Khalid Ashkanani, 23, over Jordanian No. 2 Iyad Shehadi, 23.

The winner of the first-round match in Asia-Oceania zone group 2 is due to play Pakistan in April. One of the 12 teams in the group will advance to Group 1 play next year.

Surprise

In Vienna, Horst Skoff swept away ex-Wimbledon champion Pat Cash of Australia 7-6 (7-1) 7-5 6-3 to give Austria a surprise 1-0 lead in their Davis Cup world group first round tie today.

Cash's first serve let him down badly and he served 12 double faults.

"This is the best game of my life. A win against a Wimbledon champion is really something," Skoff, 20, said. "As I went into a 4-1 lead in the third set I knew I had it."

In Manama, Bahrain's No. 1 Esam Abdul Ali downed Syrian Samer Mourad Ben Hassan in three sets today to level the singles 1-1 on the opening day of the

Court confirms indefinite bail for Sidhu

NEW DELHI, Feb 3, (Reuters): A court has confirmed indefinite bail for Navjot Singh Sidhu and was to consider today his application to tour the West Indies with the Indian cricket squad.

The 24-year-old Sikh, accused of beating to death a motorist after a road accident, has been restricted from travelling outside his Punjab state after he was charged with culpable homicide.

But the incident did not stop the national selectors from including him in a group of 22 probabilities from which the tour party will be picked.

Sidhu's lawyer, Charan De Verma, told reporters after Wednesday's hearing: "I'm hopeful Navjot will get permission to go with the team."

His good behaviour in the past and the standing of his father, a former member of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party and a former advocate general of Punjab, would ensure that he went on the tour, said Brahm Mohindra, a member of the state's assembly.

Brazil beat Uruguay

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Feb 3, (AP): Brazil yesterday defeated Uruguay 4-2 to win the Pele Cup tournament in the final game of the two-week event.

Brazil's first three goals were scored by Adao in the 6th, 45th and 49th minutes. The fourth Brazilian goal was scored by Rivelino in the 75th minute.

Uruguay's Siviero scored his team's first goal in the 70th minute and Cabrera scored the second Uruguayan goal in the 85th minute.

More than 17,000 spectators went to the Caninde stadium to watch the game.

Brazil ended the tournament with 11 points after winning five games, tying one and losing none. Uruguay ended with seven points, having won three, tied one and lost two.

At the start of the first half the Brazilian team played an aggressive game constantly gaining control of the ball and taking it to its adversary's side.

Rangers play Stanraer in the next round.

Added

Mark Walters settled Rangers' nerves with a simple goal 11 minutes before half-time and a minute after the interval Kevin Drinkell added a second. An own goal in the 79th minute settled the issue.

Rangers play Stanraer in the next round.

Charlton, QPR and Villa face crucial matches

LONDON, Feb 3, (Reuters): Charlton, Queen's Park Rangers and Aston Villa face crucial games tomorrow to get away from the fringes of the English First Division relegation zone.

Fifth-from-bottom QPR and Villa, who are two places above them, have both strengthened their squads this week.

Rangers' player-manager Trevor Francis spent £500,000 (£375,000) on Liverpool midfielder Nigel Spackman and yesterday added Andy Gray, the Aston Villa midfielder, for £425,000 (£373,000).

Rangers, who have lost their last four games, will have Gary join Spackman in a double debut at home to Millwall tomorrow.

Graham Taylor has brought Austrian under-21 international defender Alex Sperr to Villa Park

for £275,000 (£481,250). He also hopes to add Derby's Nigel Callaghan and Second Division Bradford's Ian Ormondroyd.

Francis is confident Rangers have the class to move up the table as soon as their massive injury problems ease.

Depressed

"I am not feeling depressed about the run we have had," he explained. "I have got confidence in what I have been doing. The side has got great character and the spirit has been excellent."

Spackman, 28, is also confident he will not be playing Second Division soccer next season. "Trevor impressed me enough to want to sign for him. I believe in his intentions to sign

other top players," he said. "I hope the club can carry on upwards, stay in the First Division and push for European football in the coming season, if English clubs are re-admitted."

Rangers hope Wayne Fereday, Mark Falco and Mark Dennis will have recovered from injuries in time to face Millwall, who have lost their last three games.

Villa entertain third-from-bottom Sheffield Wednesday while perennial strugglers Charlton, who have, however, won their last four matches, meet Norwich at Selhurst Park.

Second-placed Norwich will be looking to keep the pressure on leaders Arsenal. Coincidentally, both clubs ended the FA Cup hopes of Non-League sides last week. Norwich crushed Sut-

ton 8-0. Charlton beat Kettering 2-1.

Every Saturday seems to bring a pressure game for Charlton at this stage of the season. But experienced striker Garth Crooks is sure that the side is enjoying the challenge.

"I for one am quite happy with it," he said. "We have played better in recent games and the results have shown that. But tomorrow's game will be a big test for us."

He added: "It is far too early to say who will go down and who won't. There are a lot of games to play and a lot of points to play for."

"One thing that Charlton have learned over the last two seasons is that you are still in the First Division until it is mathematically impossible."

Elsewhere Arsenal entertain West Ham and will be looking for revenge against the side that knocked them out of the FA Cup. Liverpool, boosted by Sunday's FA Cup win against Millwall, visit Newcastle, who surprisingly beat them 2-1 at Anfield in October.

In a televised match put back to Sunday, Manchester United's fast-improving young side are at home to Tottenham Hotspur.

Meanwhile West Ham, desperate to avoid relegation from the First Division, underlined their Cup pedigree on Wednesday with a 1-0 English FA Cup replay win over Second Division Swindon.

Leroy Rosenior's 61st minute goal earned them a fifth round date with fellow London side Charlton and kept them on

course for a unique FA and League Cup soccer double.

Rosenior's match-winner was messy. He mis-kicked a simple tap-in from Julian Dicks' low cross across the face of the goal but the ball trickled into the net.

Grimsby beat Reading 2-1 in another fourth round replay and now face holders Wimbledon.

Scottish Cup favourites Rangers overcame Raith 3-0 in a third round replay.

Added

Mark Walters settled Rangers' nerves with a simple goal 11 minutes before half-time and a minute after the interval Kevin Drinkell added a second. An own goal in the 79th minute settled the issue.

Rangers play Stanraer in the next round.